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# 2003 Annual Program Summary for the Coos Bay District

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COOS BAY DISTRICT

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As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interest of all our people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U.S. administration.

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Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Coos Bay District Office, 1300 Airport Lane, North Bend, during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.



**2003**

**ANNUAL PROGRAM SUMMARY**

**And Monitoring Report**

**for the**

1300 Airport Lane  
North Bend, Oregon 97459

(May 2004)



## **A Message from the District Manager**

This is the eighth Annual Program Summary prepared by the Coos Bay District. As in past years, we are reporting the progress made in implementing the decisions and commitments in the Coos Bay District Resource Management Plan Record of Decision. Included are fiscal year 2003 (October 2002 through September 2003) accomplishments, as well as summaries of accomplishments in previous years. Table S-1 summarize many of the resource management actions, direction, and accomplishments for fiscal year 2003 and cumulative accomplishments for fiscal years 1995 or 1996 through 2003.

I am proud of the District accomplishments, and want to acknowledge the efforts by District personnel to implement the Resource Management Plan in a professional manner. I am especially proud of the efforts being made on the Coos Bay District to reach out to many partners to accomplish goals that could not be accomplished with single-agency or individual efforts. The restoration work accomplished on public and private lands through watershed associations is an excellent example of local team work. Congratulations to the staff on a job continuing to be well done!

One of the new partnership challenges the District met in fiscal year 2003 was implementation of Public Law 106-393, "Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act of 2000." This Act restores fiscal stability and predictability to states and counties for the benefit of public schools, roads, and other purposes associated with restoration, maintenance, and stewardship of Federal lands. The duly established citizens Resource Advisory Committee provided oversight for the expenditure of almost \$1 million in fiscal year 2003 in the District under Title II of the Act. Many of the projects implemented under this Act, as well as projects implemented under the Jobs-in-the-Woods program, have been designed for the long-term improvement of watershed conditions and fish habitat, as well as providing economic assistance to local communities.

I am also pleased that the District continues to offer density management sales designed to improve habitat conditions for late-successional and old-growth dependant species within Late-Successional Reserves. The volume offered as a byproduct of habitat improvement will also assist in providing employment opportunities in local communities.

We hope that you find the information contained in this report to be informative, and welcome suggestions for improvement. If you have access, you can follow our activities through the year on our Internet web site at <http://www.or.blm.gov/coosbay>.

Sue E. Richardson  
District Manager



**Table S-1 Coos Bay RMP Planning Area, Summary of Resource Management Actions, Directions, and Accomplishments**

RMP Resource Allocation or Management Practice or Activity	Activity Units	Fiscal Year 2003 Accomplishments or Program Status	Cumulative Practices, since RMP approval	Projected Decadal Practices
<b>Forest and Timber Resources</b>				
Regeneration harvest from the Harvest Land Base (HLB)	Acres sold	8	2,316	5,800
Commercial thinning/ density management/ uneven-age harvests (HLB)	Acres sold	147	3,947	6,100
Commercial thinning/ density management/ uneven-age harvests (Reserves)	Acres sold	1,563	3,538	No Target
Timber Volume Sold (HLB)	MMBF	1.018	157.538	236
	MMCF	0.188	25.353	39.2
Timber Volume Sold (Reserves)	MMBF	22.841	47.583	No Target
	MMCF	4.193	8.726	
Pre-commercial thinning	Acres	1,573	17,515	34,800
Brush field/hardwood conversion	Acres	42	226	1,200
Site preparation prescribed fire	Acres	30	2,020	7,600
Site preparation other	Acres	23	1,470	1,000
Fuels Treatment Acres (prescribed fire)	Acres	40	79	No Target
Fuels Treatment Acres (mechanical and other methods)	Acres	1,685	1,964	No Target
Planting/ regular stock	Acres	19	2,942	2,200
Planting/ genetically selected	Acres	222	3,257	5,400
Stand Maintenance/Protection	Total acres			64,000
Vegetation control	Acres	1,669	29,321	56,100
Animal damage control	Acres	241	4,959	7,900
Fertilization	Acres	0	22,740	12,000
Pruning	Acres	1,129	4,817	8,700



<b>Table S-1 (con't)</b>				
RMP Resource Allocation or Management Practice or Activity	Activity Units	Fiscal Year 2003 Accomplishments or Program Status	Cumulative Practices, since RMP approval	Projected Decadal Practices
<b>Noxious Weeds</b>				
Noxious weeds chemical control	Acres	840	2118	No Target
Noxious weeds, by other control methods	Acres	680	1625	No Target
<b>Rangeland Resources</b>				
Livestock grazing permits or leases	Total/renewed units	4	6	No Target
Animal Unit Months (actual)	AUMs	23	519	No Target
Livestock fences constructed	Miles	0	0	N/A
<b>Realty Actions, Rights-of-Ways, Transportation Systems</b>				
Realty, land sales	Actions/acres	0	3/5	No Target
Realty, land purchases	Actions/acres	0	3/117	No Target
Realty, land exchanges	Actions/acres acquired/disposed	0	1/75/320	No Target
Realty, Jurisdictional Transfer (Coquille Forest, USFWS Oregon Islands Wilderness)	Actions/acres disposed	0	2/5,420	No Target
Realty, CBWR Title Clarification	Actions/acres disposed	0	1/192	No Target
Realty, R&PP leases/patents	Actions/acres	0	1/129	No Target
Realty, road rights-of-way acquired for public/agency use	Actions/miles	0	5/1	No Target
Realty, other rights-of-way, permits or leases granted	Actions/miles	2/2	14/18.1	No Target
Realty, utility rights-of-way granted (linear/aerial)	Actions/miles/acres	3/3.7/23	18/67.7/188	No Target
Realty, withdrawals completed	Actions/acres	0	5/2,810	No Target
Realty, withdrawals revoked(COE on the North Spit)	Actions/acres	1/43	2/356	No Target
Realty, withdrawals completed	Actions/acres	0	5/2,810	No Target



<b>Table S-1 (con't)</b>				
RMP Resource Allocation or Management Practice or Activity	Activity Units	Fiscal Year 2003 Accomplishments or Program Status	Cumulative Practices, since RMP approval	Projected Decadal Practices
New permanent road construction <sup>1</sup>	Miles/acres	0/0	15.0/80.1	18.6/100
Roads fully decommissioned/obliterated <sup>1</sup>	Miles/acres	0/0	18.82/74.8	No Target
Roads decommissioned <sup>1</sup>	Miles/acres	7.19/30.5	78.90/365.7	No Target
Roads closed or gated <sup>2</sup>	Miles	0	13.9	No Target
<b>Energy and Minerals Actions</b>				
Mineral/energy, total oil and gas leases	Actions/acres	0	0	No Target
Mineral/energy, total other leases	Actions/acres	0	0	No Target
Mining plans approved	Actions/acres	0	1/300	No Target
Mining claims patented	Actions/acres	0	0	No Target
Mineral material sites opened	Actions/acres	0	0	No Target
Mineral material sites, closed	Actions/acres	0	0	No Target
<b>Recreation and Off-highway Vehicles</b>				
Recreation, maintained – multiple use trails (hike/horse/bike/OHV)	Units/miles	2/22	6/66	No Target
Recreation, maintained hiking trails (non-motorized)	Units/miles	3/4	8/14	No Target
Recreation, sites managed	Units/acres	17/4,556	17/4,556	No Target
<b>Cultural Resources</b>				
Cultural resource inventories	Sites/acres	0	109/252	No Target
Cultural/historic sites nominated	Sites/acres	0	0	No Target
<b>Hazardous Materials</b>				
Hazardous material sites		2/2	19/19	No Target
Hazardous material sites, identified	Sites	2	19	No Target
Hazardous material sites, remediated	Sites	2	19	No Target

<sup>1</sup> Bureau managed lands only

<sup>2</sup> Roads closed to the general public, but retained for administrative or legal access



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## Introduction

This Annual Program Summary (APS) is a requirement of the *Coos Bay District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan* (RMP/ROD). It is a progress report on the various programs and activities that have occurred on the District during Fiscal Year (FY) 2003, and provides an indication of some upcoming activities for FY 2004. It also reports on the results of the District implementation monitoring accomplishments in accord with Appendix L of the RMP/ROD and the District Monitoring Plan. Cumulative information covering the periods of 1995-2003 for several programs is discussed in the APS. Additional detailed information is available in background files and data bases from the Coos Bay District Office.

In April 1994 the *Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl* was signed by the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior. (In this document this plan will be referred to as the Northwest Forest Plan [NFP]). The RMP/ROD was approved in May 1995, and adopted and incorporated the Standards and Guidelines from the NFP in the form of Management Actions/Direction.

Both the NFP and RMP/ROD embrace the concepts of ecosystem management at a much broader perspective than had been traditional in the past. Land Use Allocations were established in the NFP covering all federal lands within the range of the spotted owl. Analysis such as watershed analysis and Late-Successional Reserve Assessments are conducted at a broader scale and involve other land owners in addition to BLM. These analyses look at resource values from a landscape level, with an ecosystem perspective.

The *Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines* was signed in January 2001. This document revised and replaces the management direction for the survey and manage and protection buffer species that was contained in the NFP and RMP/ROD. Three other Supplemental Environmental Impact Statements are scheduled to be completed and their Records of Decisions signed early in 2004. They are *Management of Port-Orford-Cedar in Southwest Oregon*, *Clarification of Language in the 1994 Record of Decision for the Northwest Forest Plan*, and *To Remove or Modify the Survey and Manage Mitigation Measure Standards and Guidelines*.

The District has been involved with the Southwestern Oregon Provincial Advisory Committee and Provincial Interagency Executive Committee involving federal agencies, local governmental bodies, Native American tribes, and interest groups, as well as watershed councils which have been formed to address concerns at the local watershed level. The Committee has addressed issues spanning all resources and ownerships within the southwestern Oregon province.

The Coos Bay District administers approximately 324,800 acres located in Coos, Curry, Douglas, and Lane counties. Under the NFP and the RMP/ROD, these lands are included in three primary Land Use Allocations: the Matrix, where the majority of commodity production will occur; Late-Successional Reserves, where providing habitat for late-successional and old-growth forest related species is emphasized and; Riparian Reserves, where maintaining water



quality and the aquatic ecosystem is emphasized. The RMP established objectives for management of 17 resource programs occurring on the District. Not all land use allocations and resource programs are discussed individually in a detailed manner in this APS because of the overlap of programs and projects. Likewise, a detailed background of the various land use allocations or resource programs is not included in the APS to keep this document reasonably concise. Complete information can be found in the RMP/ROD and supporting Environmental Impact Statement, both of which are available at the District office.

The manner of reporting the activities differs between the various programs. Some activities and programs lend themselves to statistical summaries while others are best summarized in short narratives. Further details concerning individual programs may be obtained by contacting the District office.

## **Budget**

The District budget for FY 2003 was approximately \$14,220,000. This included approximately \$654,000 in the Management of Lands and Resources (MLR) accounts, \$10,999,000 in the Oregon and California Railroad Lands (O&C) accounts, \$999,000 in the Jobs-in-the-Woods account, \$409,000 in the fire account, \$856,000 in the Timber and Recreation Pipeline Restoration accounts, and \$303,000 in "other" accounts.

During FY 2003 the District employed 163 full-time employees, and a total of 34 part-time, temporary, term, and cooperative student employees. The number of temporary, term, and cooperative student employees on board varied throughout the year.

Total appropriations for the Coos Bay District have been steadily declining during the period between 1997 and 2003, with a total decrease of \$2,930,000 and an approximate average appropriation of \$15,400,000. In addition to the appropriated funds in the District budget described above, approximately \$993,000 in Title II project contracts were awarded as described in the County Payments section.

## **Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration Funds**

The Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration Fund was established under Section 327 of the Omnibus Consolidated Rescissions and Appropriations Act of 1996 (Public Law (PL) 104-134). The Act established separate funds for the Forest Service and BLM, using revenues generated by timber sales released under section 2001(k) of the FY 95 Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Assistance and Rescissions Act. PL 104-134 directs that 75 percent of the Fund be used to prepare sales sufficient to achieve the total Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ) and that 25 percent of the Fund be used on the backlog of recreation projects. BLM's goal is to use the Fund to regain one year's lead time in ASQ timber sale preparation work over a five to seven year time frame, to reduce the backlog of maintenance at recreation sites, and address crucial unresolved visitor services or recreation management needs.



The following actions were completed in FY 2003 with Timber Sale Restoration Funds:

- The Oxbow 16 and Devil's Club timber sales, part of the Oxbow Restoration project were offered in FY 03 with a combined volume of 1,160 CCF/603 MBF of commercial thinning and hardwood conversion within the Riparian Reserves.
- Within the Tioga Creek project area, the West Tioga DM (Density Management) timber sale was offered with a volume of 7,399 CCF/4,303 MBF within the Late-Successional Reserve.
- The Cherry Creek CT (Commercial Thinning) timber sale was re-worked and re-offered with a volume of 2,470 CCF/1304 MBF within the Matrix and Riparian Reserve land use allocations.
- The Shotgun DM timber sale was offered in FY 2002 but no bid was received at the auction. This sale had a volume of 9,370 CCF/4,845 MBF of density management within the Late-Successional Reserve. The sale will be re-offered in FY 04.
- The Camas Central DMT (Density Management Thinning) timber sale was planned for FY 2002 but was postponed due to the Port-Orford-cedar lawsuit. The Record of Decision for the POC EIS is scheduled to be signed in early 2004 and this sale will be subsequently offered.

The following actions are proposed for completion in FY 2004 with Timber Sale Restoration Funds:

- Oxbow Restorations, Big Grunt commercial thinning and hardwood conversion within the Riparian Reserve
- Camas Central DMT (see note above)
- The Fruin Moon DM, Coal Minor DM, and the Bear Track DM within the North Fork Coquille Density Management and Commercial Thinning.

### **Recreation Pipeline Restoration Funds**

Twenty five percent of these funds are dedicated to recreation backlog projects on O & C Districts of western Oregon. The funds are intended to reduce infrastructure replacement or facility maintenance needs and resolve critical visitor safety or recreation management needs or issues identified in land use plans. Recreation site resource protection needs can also be met. In FY 2003 the Coos Bay District obligated \$142,000 of recreation pipeline funds to the following projects:

#### **Umpqua Field Office (\$79,000)**

- Loon Lake SRMA— campsite hardening and universal access upgrades. \$50,000
- Dean Creek EVA – Shuttles Creek inmate crews to clear brush from recreation sites and dikes. \$15,000



- Park Creek Campground – vault toilet replacement. \$14,000

**Myrtlewood Field Office (\$63,000)**

- New River ACEC – Access & Enhancement Projects: universal access enhancements; Storm Ranch entrance road & parking area chip sealing; grade & gravel River Road; Learning Center fire safety modifications; and Lost Lake structure demolition and well abandonment. \$25,000
- Vault Toilet Repair and Replacement - New River ACEC & Edson Campground. \$30,000
- Cape Blanco Lighthouse Roof Replacement. \$8,000

**Recreation Fee Demonstration Program**

In March 1998, the Coos Bay District received approval for establishing its Recreation Pilot Fee Demonstration Project under authority of Section 315 of Public Law 104-134. This authority allows the retention and expenditure of recreation fees for the operations and maintenance of recreation sites where the fees were collected. A special fee demo account was established for each site in the District where fees are collected for camping and other recreation uses. These fee demo sites are located at Loon Lake, East Shore, Sixes River and Edson Creek Campgrounds. Fees collected for Golden Passports and recreation permits are also deposited into this account.

In FY 2003, the Cape Blanco Lighthouse was added as the latest recreation fee demonstration project on the District. Since August 23, 2003, a fee has been charged for tours of the lighthouse. The amount of revenue collected and number of visitors for each fee demonstration site is shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Summary of Fee Demonstration Sites for Fiscal Year 2003		
Fee Demonstration Project	Number of Recreation Visits	Fee Demonstration Revenues
Umpqua Field Office, Loon Lake - 0R11	119,978 Visits	\$122,498.88
Myrtlewood Field Office, Sixes River - 0R12	10,147 Visits	\$14,029.00
Myrtlewood Field Office, Cape Blanco Lighthouse – 0R32	10,895 Visits <sup>1</sup> 2,924 Fee Visits <sup>2</sup>	\$4,920.26
Total for the Coos Bay District	141,020 Visits	\$141,448.14

<sup>1</sup>Visitation numbers are for the entire Cape Blanco Lighthouse 2003 operating season. The site became a fee demonstration site on August 23, 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Fee paying visits from August 23 to September 30.



## **Challenge Cost Share Projects and Volunteers, Partnerships and Collaborative Projects**

### **Partnerships/Volunteer Work:**

- **Coos Regional Bikeway and Trails Partnership:** The purpose of the partnership is to develop and implement a comprehensive regional trails plan focusing on Coos County and surrounding areas. Partners include 34 local, state and federal agencies and private businesses and interests. Contributions in 2003 included \$5000 from the Bureau of Land Management and \$5000 from South Slough National Estuarine Reserve. Accomplishments in FY 2003 included: working with the National Park Service under a grant provided through the River Trails and Conservation Assistance Program to complete a regional water trails plan, publishing 100,000 Coos Bay Water Trails brochures, and completing an Action Plan detailing the steps needed to implement the trail. In addition, Northwest Youth Corps was contracted to spend eight weeks maintaining 24 miles of trail on the Coos Bay District of the Bureau of Land Management.
- **Cape Blanco Lighthouse Cooperative Management Partnership:** The Cape Blanco Lighthouse National Historic Site (NHS) is managed by BLM under agreement with the U.S. Coast Guard. Cooperative partners include: the Confederated Tribe of Siletz Indians of Oregon, the Coquille Indian Tribe, and Oregon Parks and Recreation Department which includes the Oregon State Historic Preservation Officer. Friends of Cape Blanco operated tours, collected voluntary donations and managed gift and book sales. The BLM Fee Demonstration program was implemented for lighthouse tours at the end of August. A total of \$4,920 was collected through the end of FY 2003.
- **Oregon Coastal Environments Awareness Network (OCEAN):** Mission is to provide a forum to plan, facilitate and promote information and programs related to natural and cultural resources for residents and visitors to the region. Partners include: Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, Coos County Parks, House of Myrtlewood, Marshfield High School, Shoreline Education and Awareness, Menasha Corporation, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve, U.S. Forest Service (USFS) – Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area (NRA) and Powers Ranger District, Wavecrest Discoveries INC, City of Myrtle Point, Coast to Crest Interpreters League INC., Egret Communications, Coos County Historical Society, Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians, Gold Beach Chamber of Commerce, and the Umpqua Discovery Center. The focus of 2003 was (1) conducting teacher workshops in MARE (Marine Activities, Resources and Education), a water-based curricula to local educators, (2) assisting the Coos Regional Trail partnership in publishing the water trails brochure, (3) soliciting bids for a diorama for the North Bend Visitor Information Center and starting the design process, (4) producing a guide book to Coastal Environmental Learning Network sites throughout the region, and (5) working with local communities and organizations concerning the disposal of Coos Head in Charleston.
- **Tsalila - Participating Agreement:** The purpose of Tsalila is to provide a year-round natural resource education program, complete watershed restoration and habitat enhancement projects, and create a destination tourist event to bolster local economies (Umpqua River



Festival). BLM participated in steering committee meetings, including education committee, provided assistance with field trips and education programs for local schools as well as participated in the annual festival. The partners include: City of Reedsport, Umpqua Discovery Center, Reedsport/Winchester Bay Chamber of Commerce, Siuslaw National Forest, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Reedsport/Gardiner Salmon Trout Enhancement, Reedsport schools, Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw, OSU Extension, Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District. Two education days were offered for students, with over 35 learning stations that students from grades two through fifth participated at. Two thousand students and their teachers came from Bandon, Coos Bay and North Bend, Reedsport, Myrtle Point, Roseburg, and Sutherlin. Over 9,000 people participated in Tsalila activities in 2003 overall.

- **Umpqua Discovery Center:** Information and education center in Reedsport. Partners in addition to Coos Bay BLM include: U.S. Forest Service, City of Reedsport, et.al.
- **Dean Creek Wildlife INC.- (Nonprofit Corporation).** Cooperative Management Agreement began in 1994 to provide opportunities at Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area relating to the promotion and enhancement of: wildlife viewing and interpretive activities; wildlife management; educational activities; and management advising.
- **Oregon/Washington Western Snowy Plover Working Team:** The Pacific coast population of Western Snowy Plover was listed as threatened by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 1993 as a variety of factors caused this population to decline dramatically. In the early 1990's coastal plovers were almost lost in Oregon, but with concerted interagency efforts coordinated through the Oregon/Washington Western Snowy Plover Working Team, regional extinction was prevented and population began to rebuild. Team efforts have included: public outreach, habitat restoration, use of predator exclosures, and closure of nesting areas to recreationists. Implementation of a scientifically robust monitoring program to assess progress and identify priority actions is also a major undertaking. These endeavors require extensive interagency coordination, dedicated staff time from all the agencies, and fiscal support for supplies and contracts. BLM staffs continue to provide both leadership and support to this team.

In this fiscal year BLM took the lead in coordinating the hiring of an assistant to the Working Team Chair. Coos Bay BLM, USFWS (Newport, OR and Lacey, WA Field Offices) and the Siuslaw National Forest) all contributed to this experimental position. The Oregon Working Team has found that coordination of the Working Team and the seven subcommittees takes a considerable amount of time and is not clearly the responsibility of one agency. The assistant helps with meeting management, assists with and ensures timely accomplishment of tasks, and does grant research and writing. A partnership approach will hopefully prove to be the best solution.

- **Oregon Bat Working Group:** This group provides a forum for information exchange, project coordination, grant coordination, conservation strategy development and identification of research needs. The Working Group is the local component of the Western Bat Working Group that is in turn a part of the North American Bat Conservation



Partnership. The goal of these groups is to conserve various bat resources through interagency and group coordination

- **NFP Taxa Teams:** Taxa Teams are coordinated through the Regional Ecosystem Office (REO) to involve local expertise in development and review of conservation strategies and annual species review of various Survey and Manage (S&M) Species. During 2003, Coos Bay District staff served on the following teams: two wildlife staff served separately on the Bat and Interagency Species Management System teams, one botany staff served on the Lichens/Bryophytes taxa team, and one Field Manager served on the Step 3 Fauna Panel. Members of Taxa Teams are directly involved with “Annual Species Review”, management recommendation development and strategic survey design and implementation.
- **West Fork Smith River Salmonid Life-Cycle Monitoring:** As part of the monitoring the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and the BLM are conducting an 11 year research study on production and survival of salmonid fishes. The importance of this study is that it measures both juvenile salmon numbers and returning adults. This study began in 1999 and is one of eight sites Statewide. The Coos Bay BLM has entered a partnership with the ODFW to assist with funding of the operation of this trap.
- **Fish Passage / Culvert Monitoring Project:** In 2002 the Government Accounting Office launched a review of the “fish passage” culvert replacement and effectiveness monitoring practices of the Forest Service and the BLM in the Pacific Northwest. The West Fork Smith River was selected for this research project because it has a healthy salmonid population, recent culvert replacements on tributary streams, and is a State salmonid life-cycle monitoring watershed. This 2-4 year study differs from previous studies in that it focuses on upstream passage of juvenile anadromous salmonids. The BLM Oregon State Office has contracted with the PNW Research Station in Corvallis. Information from this research is being used in conjunction with two other salmonid studies within the watershed: one by the Environmental Protection Agency on how and when salmonids utilize different stream characteristics and the other by NOAA Fisheries on the use and effectiveness of boulder weirs.
- **Amphibian Passage / Culvert Monitoring Project:** A second and final year of data was gathered to complete data collection for a cooperative project with PNW and OSU to assess the impact of culverts on the movements of aquatic amphibians.
- **National Council of the Paper Industry for Air and Stream Improvement Owl Project:** In FY 2003, Coos Bay BLM became a participant in a cooperative project with the National Council of the Paper Industry for Air and Stream Improvement (NCASI) to investigate the habitat use of northern spotted owls in the Coos Bay District, and to evaluate the response of northern spotted owls to timber management activities, particularly commercial thinning harvest prescriptions. NCASI serves as an environmental resource for the forest products industry. Coos Bay BLM is providing support to the project through in-kind services such as office space, administrative support and vehicle use.



- **The Wildlife Society:** Coos Bay District Wildlife Staff continue to remain active in their State Professional Society (The Wildlife Society), with one biologist serving as a board member and several others helping to coordinate workshops or moderate and speak at conference sessions.
- **“Seeds of Success” Program:** The District participated for a second year in the collection of seeds for “Seeds of Success,” a program jointly sponsored by the BLM, the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, and the Plant Conservation Alliance. This nationwide program began in 2001 with a goal to collect seeds from 4,000 native species that are useful for restoration and conservation by 2010. Between 10,000 to 20,000 seeds, plus four voucher dried pressed specimens, are collected for each species. Seed samples are stored at Kew and the USDA’s National Seed Storage Laboratory. Collected species represent one or more of the following ten categories: restoration, forage or browse value, widespread regional endemic species, native wild relatives of cultivated or economically important species, significance to Tribes, monotypic native species, closely related to rare species, closely related to non-native invasive weeds, important for rare pollinators, or flagship species such as state flowers, trees, and grasses. For more information on the project see [www.nps.gov/plants/sos/](http://www.nps.gov/plants/sos/). During 2003, district staff and a contractor collected seeds and voucher specimens of the following species: Pacific madrone, summer coralroot, pink sand-verbena, big leaf maple, bearberry, sweet-after-death, American silvertop, salal, white flower hawkweed, and youth-on-age.
- **Support for Regional and National Efforts:** Coos Bay BLM staff serves as an instructor for BLM’s National Training Center course on T&E Species Management and Consultation. In FY 2003, this support included one training session. Coos Bay BLM staff also serve as a BLM wildlife field representative on the Interagency Species Management System (ISMS) Oversight Committee which guides the overall direction of the ISMS data project and serves as liaison between field ISMS users, ISMS data stewards/programmers, and management (the IMG).

## Volunteers

In FY 2003, the Coos Bay District had 29 individual volunteer and 3 group agreements that contributed approximately 15,140 hours of work. In addition, the District also utilized County hosted workers/prisoners in conducting volunteer forest and recreation projects for approximately 4,020 hours. The total value of this work is estimated to be \$297,567. Cost to the BLM for volunteers is about 20 percent or \$59,513.

### Activities or Programs benefiting from volunteers included:

- Recreation/Visitor Services - 8,870 hours = 46 percent
- Recreation Facilities Maintenance - 8,870 hours = 46 percent
- Wildlife - 616 hours; = 3 percent
- Forest Development – 150 hours = < 1 percent
- All Resources RAC Council – 640 hours = 4 percent.

Volunteers completed numerous recreation projects such as: cleaning campgrounds and recreation sites, mowing, weeding, brushing, clearing debris and trash. Site hosts provided



visitor information, campground security, and performed routine maintenance tasks at recreation sites throughout the District.

## Challenge Cost Share Projects

Challenge Cost Share Contributions utilized by the District in FY 2003 are shown in Table 2.

Table 2. FY 2003 Challenge Cost Share Contributions		
Project	Cooperator(s)	BLM Contribution
Increasing Western Snowy Plover Reproductive Success	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon Parks and Recreation, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	\$43,500
Re-Introduction of Pink Sand Verbena	Institute of Applied Ecology, Siuslaw National Forest	\$4,500
Re-Introduction Assessment of an Experimental Population of the Endangered Western Lily	Berry Botanic Garden	\$3,000
Total		\$51,000



# **Progress of Resource Management Plan Implementation**

## **Land Use Allocations - Changes and Adjustments**

### **Land Acquisitions and Disposals**

The net change in the District Land Use Allocations (LUA) as a result of land acquisitions and disposals in FY 2003 are as follows:

The District did not dispose of any lands in FY 2003.

The District did not acquire any lands in FY 2003.

The US Air Force relinquished approximately 43 acres of lands under their jurisdiction at Coos Head, in Coos County. As a result, the lands were turned over to GSA for disposal.

### **Unmapped LSRs**

The RMP/ROD requires that two years of marbled murrelet surveys be conducted to protocol to detect occupied habitat, prior to human disturbance of suitable habitat (stands 80-years of age and older). When the surveys indicate occupation (e.g., active nest, fecal ring or eggshell fragments, and birds flying below, through, into, or out of the forest canopy within or adjacent to a stand), the District will protect contiguous existing and recruitment habitat for marbled murrelets (i.e., stands that are capable of becoming marbled murrelet habitat within 25 years) within a 0.5 mile radius of any site where the birds' behavior indicates occupation.

As a result of the marbled murrelet surveys, 19,775 acres of occupied habitat have been identified within the Matrix since the RMP was approved. These lands are now being managed as unmapped LSRs.

## **Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives**

### **Watershed Analysis**

The watershed analysis process provides managers and interdisciplinary teams information about the natural resources and human uses at the watershed or subwatershed scale. This information is used in National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for specific projects, and to facilitate compliance with the Endangered Species Act and Clean Water Act by providing information for consultation with other agencies.

Watershed analysis includes:

- Analysis of at-risk fish species and stocks, their presences, habitat conditions, and restoration needs.
- Descriptions of the vegetation across landscape over time. This includes how humans have modified the vegetation, and the effects of fire.
- Characterization of geologic and hydrologic conditions with a focus on how they affect erosional processes, water quality and fish habitats.



The interdisciplinary teams prepare the watershed analysis documents by consolidating and analyzing information from a variety of existing sources. These include geographic information system data sets, agency records, old maps, scientific literature, old and recent surveys, and oral history. Where locally applicable information is lacking, the interdisciplinary teams may collect readily obtainable data. In past watershed analyses, this included collecting water quality data, doing culvert surveys, looking for the upper extent of fish distribution in a watershed, and preparing fire histories.

As of the end of FY 1999, 22 first iteration watershed analysis documents, covering 93 percent of the BLM lands on Coos Bay District, have been prepared (Tables 3 and 4). The remaining District lands, not covered by a watershed analysis, are in subwatersheds where BLM land represents less than 8 percent of that subwatershed. The District will visit those lands through watershed analysis on an as needed basis. See Appendix A for more details on watershed analysis documents for the District.

In the last four years, the District has concentrated on completing 2<sup>nd</sup> or even 3<sup>rd</sup> iterations of watershed analysis. Many of the earlier watershed analyses were not detailed enough, particularly in areas of intermingled private lands, to accommodate as adequate cumulative effects analysis, nor did they address questions currently being demanded by regulatory agencies and litigation judgments. In addition, the Aquatic Conservation Strategy SEIS and new consultation processes will rely on watershed scale analyses to develop conclusions about landscape scale cumulative effects.

Table 3. Coos Bay District BLM Acres Covered by First Iteration Watershed Analysis Documents:

	Coos Bay District Cumulative BLM Acres	Cumulative Percent of Coos Bay District BLM Acres
1 <sup>st</sup> Iteration Analyses completed FY 1994 through FY 1999	299,533	93%
1 <sup>st</sup> Iteration Analyses completed through FY 2003	299,533	93%



Table 4. Watershed Analysis Documents Covering Coos Bay District Lands

Year	Document Name (Hydrologic unit name if different from document name)	Lead Administrative Unit	Iteration
1994	Lower Umpqua Frontal (Middle Umpqua Frontal) Middle Fork Coquille	Coos Bay-BLM Coos Bay-BLM	1 <sup>st</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup>
1995	Smith River (Lower Upper Smith River) Middle Umpqua Frontal (Waggoner Creek) Paradise Creek Middle Creek North Coquille Fairview Sandy Creek	Roseburg-BLM Roseburg-BLM Coos Bay-BLM Coos Bay-BLM Coos Bay-BLM Coos Bay-BLM Coos Bay-BLM	1 <sup>st</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup>
1996	Middle Smith River Mill Creek Oxbow Lower South Fork Coquille West Fork Smith Tioga Creek Sandy Remote	Coos Bay-BLM Coos Bay-BLM Coos Bay-BLM Coos Bay-BLM Coos Bay-BLM Coos Bay-BLM Coos Bay-BLM	1 <sup>st</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> / 3 <sup>rd</sup>
1997	Smith River (North Fork Smith River) Upper Middle Umpqua Middle Main/ North Fork/ Catching Creek North Chetco Big Creek	Siuslaw NF Coos Bay-BLM Coos Bay-BLM Coos Bay-BLM Coos Bay-BLM	1 <sup>st</sup> / 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup>
1998	Lower Umpqua (Lower Umpqua Frontal) Hunter Creek	Siuslaw NF Siskiyou NF	1 <sup>st</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup>
1999	South Fork Coos River East Fork Coquille Lobster Creek	Coos Bay-BLM Coos Bay-BLM Siskiyou NF	1 <sup>st</sup> / 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup>
2000	South Fork Coos River	Coos Bay-BLM	3 <sup>rd</sup>
2001	North Fork Coquille South Fork Coos River	Coos Bay-BLM Coos Bay-BLM	2 <sup>nd</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup>
2002	Oxbow Upper Umpqua	Coos Bay-BLM Roseburg-BLM	2 <sup>nd</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup>
2003	Middle Umpqua River	Coos Bay-BLM	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Planned 2004	Mill Creek (Also planning to add chapters to the 2003 Middle Umpqua River Watershed Analysis)	Coos Bay-BLM	2 <sup>nd</sup>



## Watershed Councils and Associations

The District coordinates with and offers assistance to two watershed associations and three watershed councils. This provides an excellent forum for exchange of ideas, partnering, education and promoting watershed-wide restoration. As shown in Table 5, the District is active with the Coos Watershed Association, Coquille Watershed Association, Umpqua Basin Watershed Council, Smith River Watershed Council, and the South Coast Watershed Council. Biologists, soils scientists, engineers, noxious weed specialists and other resource professionals attended monthly committee meetings and assisted with on the ground project reviews in cooperation with watershed association coordinators and other agency personnel.

Table 5. Coos Bay District Involvement with Local Watershed Associations and Councils

Watershed Group	Field Office	Status of Involvement 2002/2003
Coos Watershed Association	Umpqua	Attend monthly association meetings. Resource professionals participated in technical field reviews and assisted with NEPA and ESA consultation documentation. Managed task orders issued under assistance agreement.
Coquille Watershed Association	Umpqua/Myrtlewood	Attend monthly association meetings. Resource professionals participated on Projects Committee and in technical field reviews. Managed task orders issued under assistance agreement.
Smith River Watershed Council	Umpqua	Attend monthly council meetings. Resource professionals participated in technical field reviews. Managed task orders issued under assistance agreement.
South Coast Watershed Council	Myrtlewood	Attend monthly council meetings. Resource professionals participated in technical field reviews and on the Councils Technical Advisory and Monitoring Committees. Managed task orders issued under assistance agreement.
Umpqua Basin Watershed Council	Umpqua	Attend monthly council meetings. Resource professionals participated in technical field reviews and on Technical Advisory Committee. Managed task orders issued under assistance agreement.

During 2003, the District worked with the Coos Watershed Association on the Catching Slough project that was recommended for funding by the Coos Bay BLM Resource Advisory Committee. The BLM provided NEPA and Section 7 Endangered Species Act Consultation for the project that repaired several road failures along the Catching Slough estuary, reconnected tidal wetlands, and improved fish passage at three sites.



## Watershed Restoration and Jobs-in-the-Woods

In FY 2003, watershed analysis continued to assist in the identification of the District's watershed restoration projects. BLM projects were coordinated with local watershed groups' projects and priorities. "Jobs-in-the-Woods" (JITW) funding is part of a regional collaborative effort to improve the health of the land and restore watersheds while at the same time providing economic assistance to local communities.

The District allocated \$ 794,000 towards restoration projects through the JITW program in FY 2003 (Table 6). Of that total, \$45,000 was approved for projects on privately owned land and Coquille Forest Lands under the Wyden Amendment. The South Coast Watershed Council received \$25,000, the Coquille Watershed Association \$10,000, and the Coquille Indian Tribe \$10,000. These projects benefited adjacent Federally-managed lands. The remaining \$749,000 was directed towards projects on BLM lands. Of that subtotal, \$114,500 was provided to the Coquille Watershed Association (\$89,500) and Umpqua Basin Watershed Council (\$25,000) to do watershed restoration work on Coos Bay District managed lands.

Table 6 displays the types of projects funded by Jobs-in-the-Woods in FY 2003.

Type of Work	Number of Projects	Funding	Job Creation Estimated Workdays
Instream habitat / large wood placement / wood stockpile and storage	4	\$48,000	64
Instream culvert replacement	3	\$258,600	515
Road related restoration – Repair / Decommissioning	4	\$240,000	480
Noxious Weed Control / Native Seed	3	\$80,000	160
Upland restoration	2	\$51,200	102
Monitoring	2	\$35,000	70
Pre FY2003 Jobs-in-the-Woods and Title II contract modifications	5	\$81,200	162
Totals	23	\$794,000	1,553

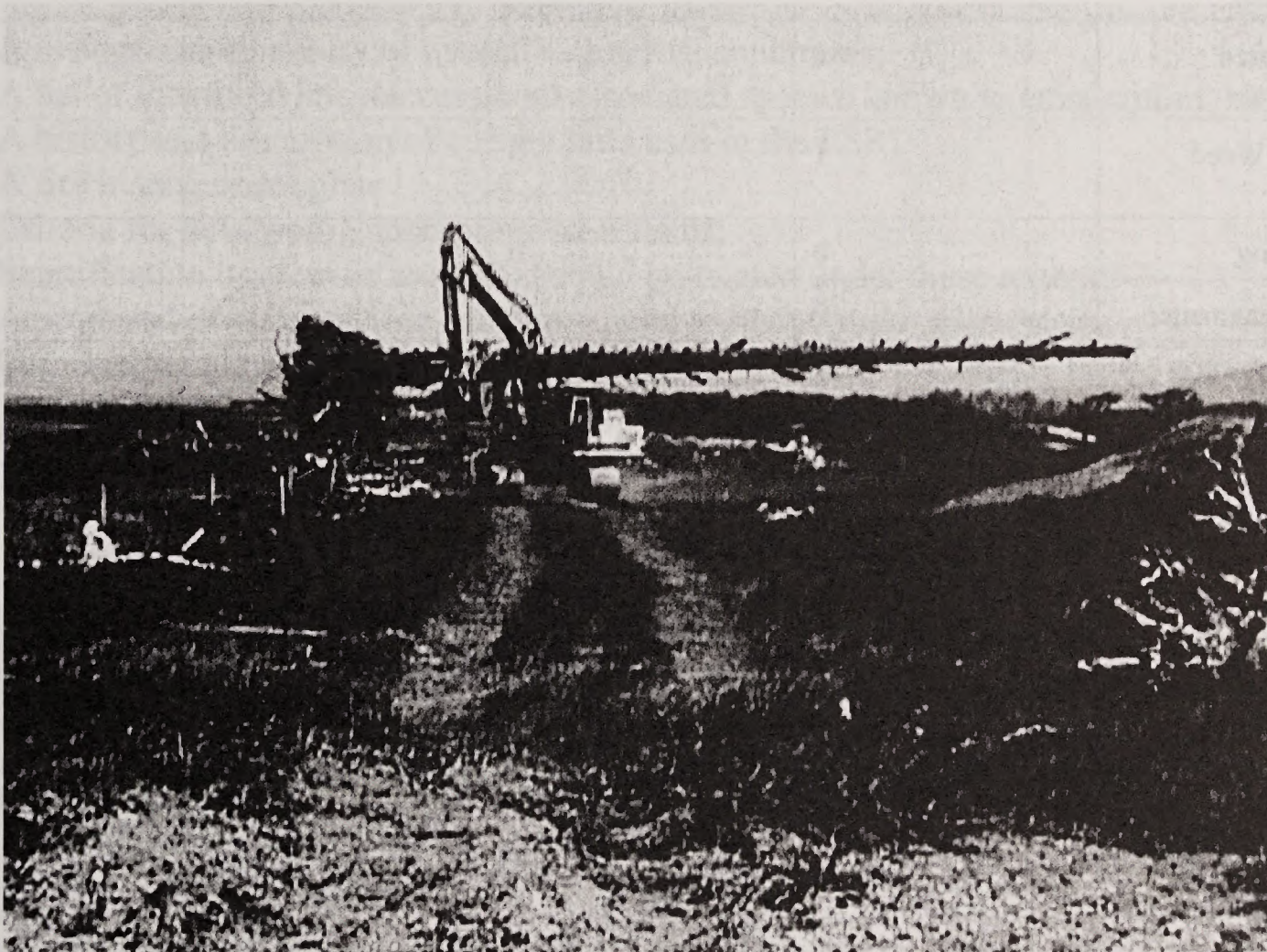
Approximately \$81,000 of Jobs-in-the-Woods funding was used to fund contract modifications or funding shortfalls for pre-FY 2003 Jobs-in-the-Woods projects and Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act of 2000 – Title II projects that met the Job-in-the-Woods criteria. These projects included culvert replacements, road maintenance, and instream wood placement projects.



## County Payments

The Coos Bay District is one of five Western Oregon BLM Districts working with local counties and communities to implement the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000. The purpose of the act is “to restore stability and predictability to the annual payments made to States and counties containing National Forest System Lands and public domain lands managed by the BLM for use by the counties for the benefit of public schools, roads, and other purposes.”

Under Title II of the Act, counties can elect to designate a portion of the funds they receive under the Secure Rural Schools and Communities Self-Determination Act to be used for special projects on Federal Lands. These project funds may be used by the Secretary of the Interior for the purpose of entering into and implementing cooperative agreements with willing Federal Agencies, State and local governments, private and non-profit entities, and landowners for protection, restoration and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat, and other resource objectives consistent with the purpose of this title on Federal lands and on non-Federal lands where projects would benefit these resources on Federal lands.



Contractor for the South Coast Watershed Council transporting large wood to be placed in the New River estuary in order to enhance habitat for coho salmon.

Funds made available in FY 2003 under Title II by the three counties within the BLM Coos Bay District were as follows: Coos County - \$221,120; Curry County - \$201,813; and Douglas County - \$629,109.

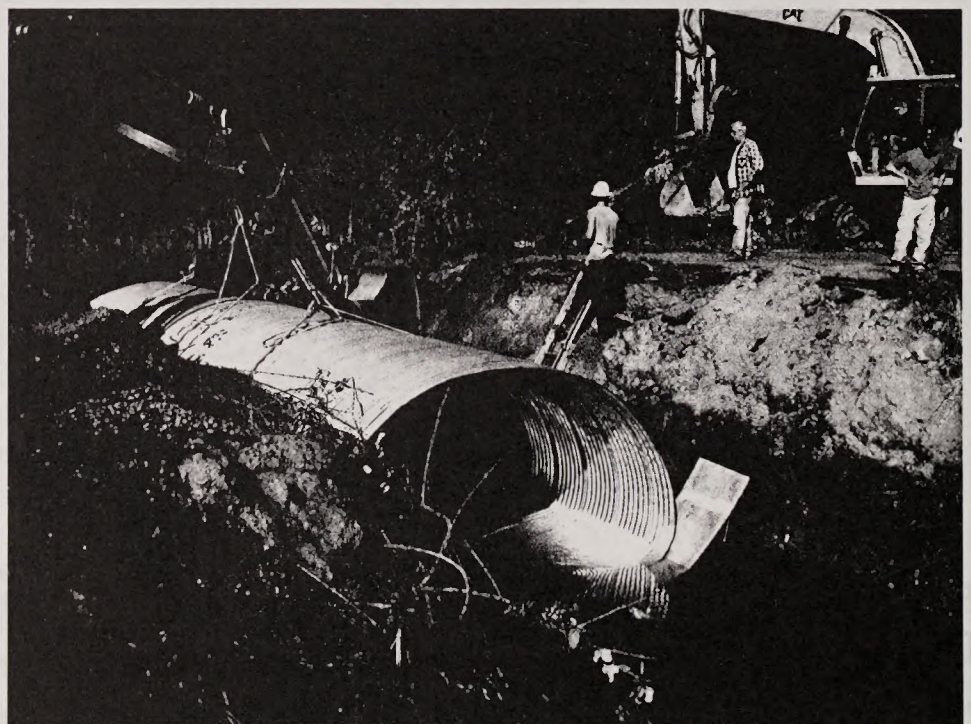


Projects eligible for Title II funding were reviewed and recommended for funding by the BLM Coos Bay District Resource Advisory Council (RAC). The RAC reviewed a total of thirty-one projects submitted by the BLM, Coos County, the Coquille Indian Tribe, local watershed groups, and others. Table 7 displays the types of projects recommended and subsequently approved for funding at these meetings and the money distribution in each of the project categories.

Table 7. Title II projects approved for funding in FY 2003				
Type of Project	Number of Coos County Projects	Number of Curry County Projects	Number of Douglas County Projects	Total Funding for projects in FY 2002
Instream large wood placement	0	0	2	\$59,000
Instream culvert replacement	0	0	4	\$246,500
Riparian Restoration	0	0	0	\$0
Road related restoration	1	1	1	\$404,000
Noxious Weed Control	1	0	2	\$53,000
Monitoring	0	0	1	\$55,250
Trail Maintenance	0	0	0	\$0
Other	2	2	2	\$231,100
Total <sup>1</sup>	4	3	12	\$993,600

<sup>1</sup> All available funds were not allocated to projects

Contractors hired by Coos Watershed Association replacing a culvert in a tributary to Catching Slough through Title II funding





## **Late-Successional Reserve Assessments**

The NFP requires the completion of Late-Successional Reserve (LSR) Assessments. All habitat manipulation activities in LSRs prior to FY 97 were covered by initial LSR assessments completed in accordance with the RMP and NFP.

In FY 98 the Coos Bay, Roseburg, and Medford BLM Districts, and the Mapleton Ranger District of the Siuslaw National Forest jointly completed the *South Coast - Northern Klamath Late-Successional Reserve Assessment*. This Assessment included 10 individual LSRs involving approximately 258,000 acres of federal lands located in southwestern Oregon between the California border and the Umpqua River and extends east to the Interstate 5 corridor. Completion of this assessment essentially completes assessments for all LSRs within the Coos Bay District and also in southwestern Oregon. The District also completed a “mini LSR assessment” to permit completion of a Jobs-in-the-Woods watershed restoration project in the Slide Creek drainage.

As specified in the ROD, LSR Assessments include eight components:

1. A history and inventory of overall vegetative conditions;
2. A list of identified late-successional associated species known to exist within the LSR;
3. A history and description of current land uses in the LSR;
4. A fire management plan;
5. Criteria for developing appropriate treatments;
6. Identification of specific areas that could be treated under these criteria;
7. A proposed implementation schedule tiered to higher order plans, and;
8. Proposed monitoring and evaluation components to help evaluate if future activities are carried out as intended and achieve intended results.

In FY 2003, West Tioga DM was offered and sold. Hatcher Creek DM was reoffered (a FY 2002 no-bid sale) and sold. Camas Central DMT timber sale was planned, but was postponed due to the Port-Orford-cedar lawsuit. Shotgun DM was offered for sale but did not sell, and will be reoffered along with additional sales in FY 2004. Each of these sales is being developed in accord with the management recommendations contained in the LSR assessment. In addition to activity in these commercial sized stands, pre-commercial density management projects have also been conducted in younger stands to begin the development of late-successional stand characteristics in these stands.

## **Matrix**

### **15 Percent Analysis**

The NFP/ROD (page C-44) and Coos Bay District RMP ROD (page 53) require that the BLM and USFS provide for the retention of late-successional/old-growth fragments in the matrix where little remains. The standards and guidelines are to be applied to any fifth field watershed in which federal forest lands are currently comprised of 15 percent or less late-successional forest, considering all land allocations. In preparing watershed analysis documents the District



completed an initial screening of watersheds including lands managed by the Siuslaw and Siskiyou National Forests for compliance with the 15 percent retention standards and guidelines. Results of this analysis were reported in the watershed analysis documents. All Coos Bay District FY 95 to 2003 sales sold under the NFP have complied with the 15 percent rule using the initial analysis.

A joint BLM/FS Instruction Memorandum was issued on September 14, 1998. This provided the final guidance for implementing the 15 percent standards and guidelines throughout the area covered by the NFP. Implementation of this guidance is required for all actions with decisions beginning October 1, 1999. A final 15 percent analysis was completed in 1999.

Only the Lower Coquille River and the Middle Main Coquille River fifth field watersheds have less than 15 percent late-successional forest (see Table 8). Regeneration harvest in these two watersheds will be deferred until the 15 percent standard is met.

Regeneration harvest will also be deferred at least one decade in the Whaleshead Creek and Lower Coos River/Coos River watersheds listed in Table 8 in order to be sure that harvesting will not reduce the late-successional forest component below 15 percent.

Table 8. Fifth Field Watersheds With Deferred Regeneration Harvest		
	Percentage of Federal Forest 80+ Years Old	Harvestable Acres Deferred
Lower Coquille River	4.4	160
Middle Main Coquille River	0.0	767
Lower Coos River/Coos River	17.7	935
Whaleshead Creek	27.1	66
Total Deferred Regeneration Harvest Acres		1,928

The total 1,928 deferred acres represents about 4 percent of the District's Matrix acres. Deferring these acres from harvesting has no significant impact on the District's sustainable ASQ.



## Program Accomplishments

The remainder of the APS will report progress in implementing the RMP by program area.

### Air Quality

All prescribed fire activities conformed to the Oregon Smoke Management and Visibility Protection Plans. No intrusions occurred into designated areas as a result of prescribed burning and fuels treatment activities on the District. There are no Class I airsheds within the District.

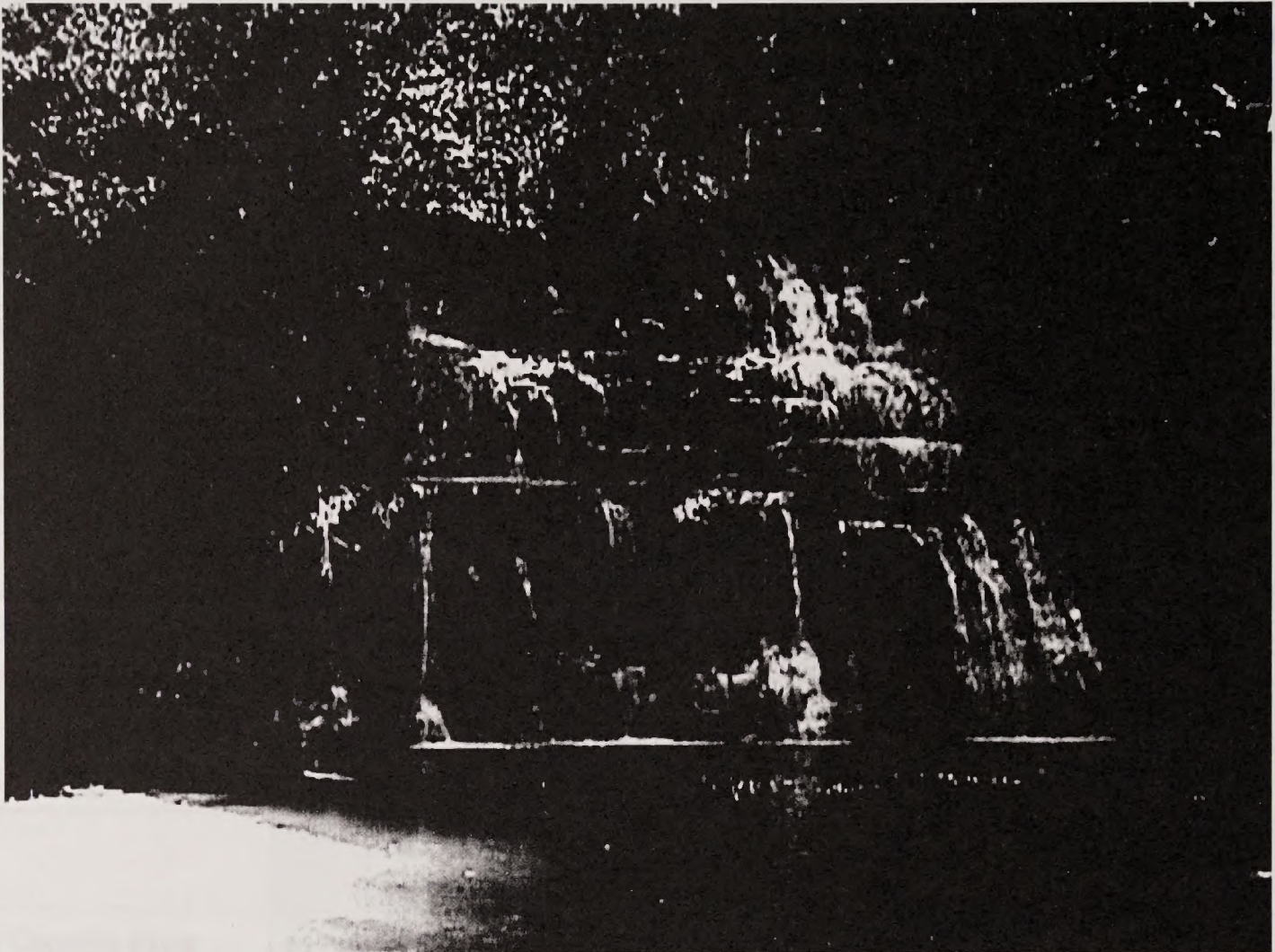
Air quality standards for the District's prescribed fire and fuels program are monitored and controlled by the Oregon Department of Forestry through their "Operation Guidance for the Oregon Smoke Management Program."



Broadcast burn on Slide Show - unit # 1



## Water and Soils



Middle Creek Falls, North Fork Coquille

### Water

The District continues to complete Water Quality Restoration Plans for 303d listed streams as required by Oregon State Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). These 303d streams are listed for exceeding the DEQ summer temperature parameter.

Overall, Water Quality Restoration Plans for 78% of stream segments (21 of 28) on the District have been finished (See Table 9). Plans are complete for the Lower South Fork Coquille and the seven listed stream segments in the Umpqua Basin. Additionally, in the South Coast Basin, 70% of stream segments have been finished, three listed stream segments are in progress, and three stream segments are planned.

Streamflow and temperature were measured at eight small forested gaging stations for long-term trends. These stations are distributed throughout the Oregon Coast and Siskiyou Mountains physiographic provinces. They have been operated under a cooperative agreement with Douglas and Coos Counties and the Oregon Water Resources Department. Data from streamflow stations in the region, including these stations, has been collected and is being used to construct useful hydrology and geomorphological relationships. Hydrologists from BLM's National Applied Resource Science Center are assisting with this effort. These relationships will be used to aid in-stream restoration project designs.



**Table 9. Coos Bay District Water Quality Management Plans Status**

Basin <i>Umpqua</i>			
<b>Name &amp; Description</b>	<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Criteria/Season</b>	<b>Field Office/Status</b>
<b>Buck Creek</b> Mouth to West Fork	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Umpqua/ BLM/DEQ/Completed
<b>Herb Creek</b> Mouth to Headwaters	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Umpqua / Completed
<b>Paradise Creek</b> Mouth to East/ West Forks	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Umpqua/ BLM/DEQ/Completed
<b>Russel Creek (Smith River)</b> Mouth to Headwaters	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Umpqua / Completed
<b>Smith River, West Fork</b> Mouth to Headwaters	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Umpqua / Completed
<b>Soup Creek</b> Mouth to North Fork	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Umpqua/ BLM/DEQ/Completed
<b>South Sisters Creek (Smith River)</b> Mouth to headwaters	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Umpqua / Completed
Basin <i>South Coast</i>			
<b>Name &amp; Description</b>	<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Criteria/Season</b>	<b>Field Office/Status</b>
<b>Alder Creek</b> Mouth to headwaters	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Umpqua / Completed
<b>Belieu Creek</b> Mouth to headwaters	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Myrtlewood / Planned
<b>Big Creek</b> Mouth to Headwaters	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Myrtlewood/Completed
<b>Bravo Creek</b> Mouth to Headwaters	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Myrtlewood/Completed
<b>Burnt Creek</b> Mouth to Headwaters	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Umpqua / <i>In Progress</i>
<b>Cherry Creek</b> Mouth to Little Cherry	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Umpqua / Completed
<b>Chetco River, North Fork</b> Mouth to Bravo Creek	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Myrtlewood/Completed
<b>Coquille River, East Fork</b> Mouth to Lost Creek	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Myrtlewood/Completed



Table 9 Coos Bay District Water Quality Management Plans Status (continued)			
Basin <i>South Coast</i>			
Name & Description	Parameter	Criteria/Season	Field Office/Status
<b>Coquille River, North Fork</b> Mouth to Middle Creek	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Umpqua / Completed
<b>Coquille River, North Fork</b> Middle Creek to Little North	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Umpqua / Completed
<b>Dement Creek</b> Mouth to Headwaters	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Myrtlewood/Completed
<b>Elk Creek</b> Mouth to Headwaters	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Myrtlewood/Completed
<b>Hunter Creek</b> Mouth to RM 16.5	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Myrtlewood / DEQ
<b>Lower Rock Creek</b> Mouth to headwaters	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Myrtlewood / Planned
<b>Middle Creek</b> Mouth to headwaters	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Umpqua / Completed
<b>New River</b> Mouth to Headwaters	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Myrtlewood / DEQ
<b>Pistol River</b> Mouth to Headwaters	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Myrtlewood / USFS-DEQ
<b>Rock Creek (Middle Fork near Remote)</b> Mouth to Headwaters	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Myrtlewood / Planned
<b>Rowland Creek</b> Mouth to Headwaters	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Myrtlewood/Completed
<b>Salmon Creek</b> Mouth to Headwaters	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Myrtlewood/Completed
<b>Sandy Creek</b> Mouth to ~ RM 5	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Myrtlewood / <i>In Progress</i>
<b>Sixes River</b> Mouth to Headwaters	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Myrtlewood / USFS-DEQ
<b>Tioga Creek</b> Mouth to Headwaters	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Umpqua / <i>In Progress</i>
<b>Woodward Creek</b> Mouth to headwaters	Temperature	Rearing 64 F / Summer	Umpqua / Completed

Automated precipitation equipment was maintained at four recording sites: McKinley Ridge, Soup Creek, Spencer Slide and WF Smith maintenance shop.

Summer temperature monitoring, in support of the Tioga Creek Water Quality Restoration Plan (*in progress*), was completed on 18 streams and 5 tributary sites throughout Tioga Creek, tributary to the Coos River.



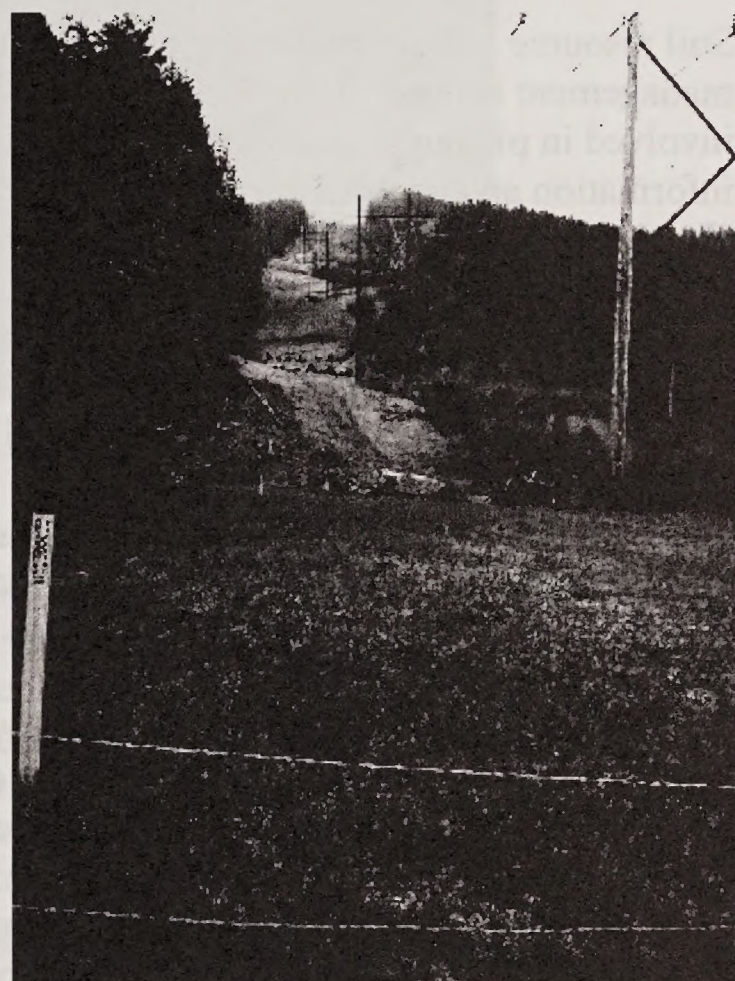
Hydrology, soils, and fisheries specialists collected turbidity data in accordance with DEQ turbidity standards. Such compliance monitoring included above and below measurements during construction at stream culvert installations or replacements, removal of culverts during road decommissioning and bank stabilization projects.

Specialists in hydrology and soils continue to be actively involved with timber sale field review, design, and NFP stream buffer width and terminus determinations for proposed regeneration harvest, commercial thinning and density management units. These units are located within both the Matrix and Late-Successional Reserve (LSR) land use allocations across the District.

In addition, soil and hydrology specialists provided scoping and technical support in the development of the Coos County Natural Gas Pipeline EIS. They also provided “*in progress*” technical advice to the Coos County environmental specialist and prime contractor in regards to erosion control and stabilization procedures, to protect the water and soil resource.

The District Hydrologist and Soil Scientist were actively involved with the local watershed associations. They attended technical committee meetings, project field reviews and general monthly meetings.

Watershed restoration training enabled BLM specialists to evaluate streams more effectively and be able to design projects and develop monitoring plans.



Natural Gas Pipeline Project - post construction – showing Erosion Control Stabilization

## **Municipal Watersheds**

The District has lands within two municipal watersheds. The city of Myrtle Point has a community water system within the North Fork Coquille watershed (83,865 BLM acres) and serves approximately 1,100 residences. The city of Coquille at times uses the Coquille watershed as a reserve source (157,931 BLM acres) and serves approximately 1,800 residences. These sources are filtered and pumped from river alluvium. No reports of contamination or water quality violations from BLM lands have been received.



## **State-listed Clean Water Act 303d Streams**

The District lands encompass portions of 32 state-listed 303(d) segments, identified by the DEQ, requiring the development of water quality assessments and water quality management plans. Stream segment name, parameter, criteria, season, responsible Field Office and current plan development status is shown above in Table 9.

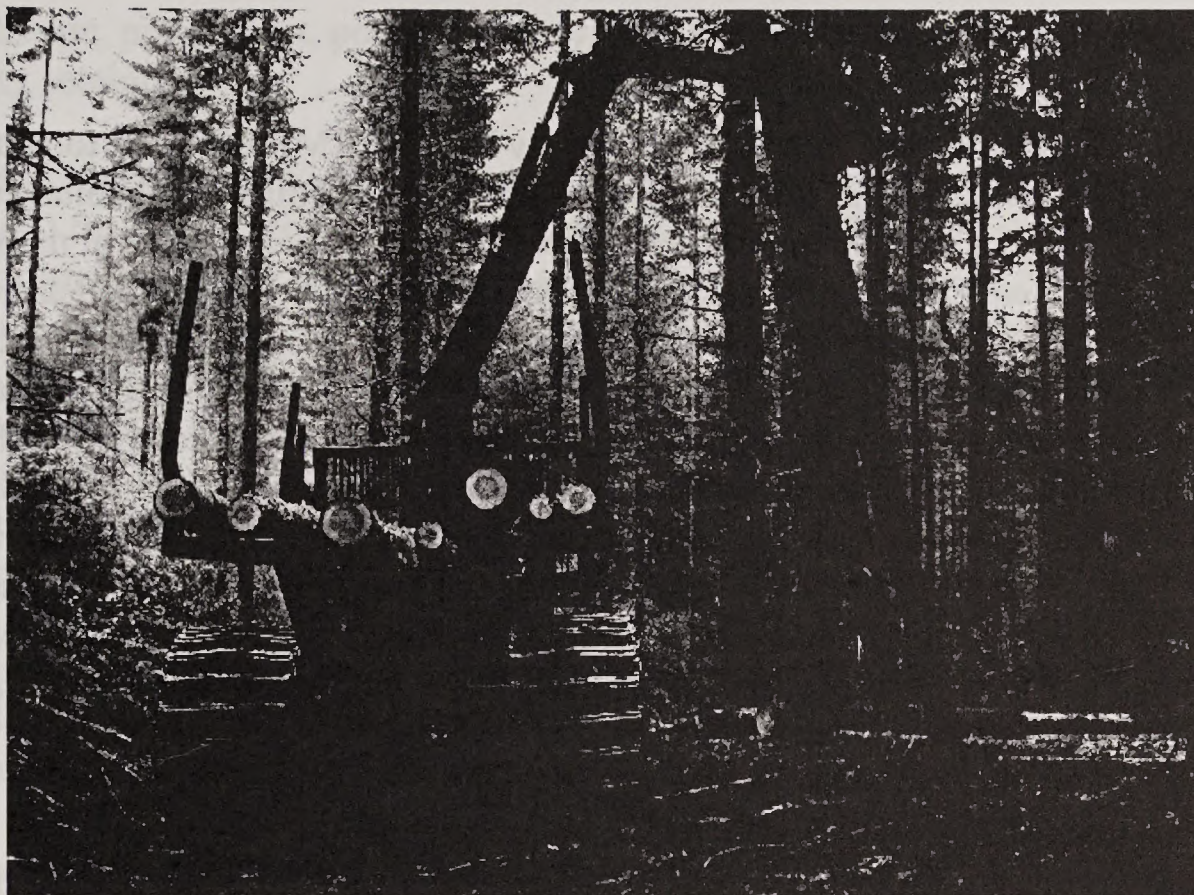
## **Soils**

Soil resource and sedimentation assessment is often a key element when developing land management actions. This fiscal year, specialists within the program have primarily been involved in planning or monitoring activities that have provided ID Teams with the necessary information and analysis for a variety of restoration and commercial activities across the District. The development of environmental assessments for commercial thinning of Matrix lands, density management within LSR allocation lands, road decommissioning or improvement projects and a host of in-stream and upland restoration projects has comprised a majority of the workload. In addition, the final Natural Gas Pipeline EIS was reviewed and its installation across BLM managed lands inspected, focusing primarily on erosion control and soil stability.

The Sandy and Slide Creek road decommissioning project that was delayed last year was completed this summer. Approximately 6.5 miles of road were either closed to traffic or improved to reduce sediment delivery into known fish habitat.

As the District continues to thin 30- to 50-year old timber stands, the use of ground based equipment becomes more prevalent. This equipment was roughly evaluated during the development of the District RMP and since that time Best Management Practices have been recommended to limit the disturbance, compaction and extent of lands impacted by such equipment. Evaluation of the impacts from this type of equipment was conducted for compliance with the RMP guidelines and contract stipulations. The results of monitoring showed that by using BMPs outlined in the various EAs the standards of the RMP can be achieved. Site productivity remains high and surface disturbance is less than allowed by the RMP.





Forwarder operating on the Camas East Density Management thinning

Specialists in Soils and Geology continue to evaluate the use of winged sub-soilers to provide the proper level of decompaction on road and landings. As an alternative to sub-soilers, several projects using conventional excavators to turn the upper surface over and remove only the compacted surface were viewed on other Districts. Both are easily obtained when using an excavator with a thumb attachment. When appropriate, it appears to be more successful than when sub-soilers are used.

Review, design, and implementation of restoration projects continue to be a workload. JITW and RAC projects are being developed as time allows. Most of these projects are related to road closure or improvements and sediment delivery mechanisms that have not been addressed in the past. The most interesting was the placement of whole trees along the banks of New River for creation of fish habitat and collection of wood during flood conditions. The proposal to place of whole trees had not been attempted on District before and the Fisheries and Soils staff collaborated on the implementation of the project

The involvement of the specialists with the various Watershed Councils and Associations was less than in past years, due to workload priorities. Councils and Associations are being asked to provide more of the actual on the ground effort for restoration projects and rely less on the technical expertise of the staff within this program



## **Wildlife Habitat**

The focus of the wildlife program under the Coos Bay District RMP has been to support timber sales and other District work. This work is supported through wildlife and habitat surveys, effects analysis and project implementation monitoring. Biologists are integral members on NEPA planning teams, watershed analyses, and LSR Assessments. Threatened and Endangered Species management is another major focus of the Wildlife Program. This work includes: western snowy plover management, marbled murrelet protocol surveys for timber sale and other project clearances and consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Wildlife program work also includes wildlife population and habitat monitoring (including Survey and Manage), database management and habitat restoration such as snag creation and Historic Community Habitat Restoration. A long-term goal for the program is to expand emphasis on active resource stewardship and restoration in addition to supporting other programs. In 2003, biologists continued to look for project opportunities, foster partnerships, plus plan and implement restoration projects.

### **Green Tree Retention**

RMP direction is to retain six to eight green conifer trees per acre in the General Forest Management Area and 12 to 18 green conifers per acre in the Connectivity/Diversity Blocks in regeneration harvest units. The retained trees are to be distributed in variable patterns to contribute to stand diversity. In addition green trees are retained for snag recruitment in timber harvest units where there is an identified near-term snag deficit. These trees do not count toward green-tree retention requirements. Selected conifers should be representative of pre-harvest species and size composition, but be of sufficient size and condition to survive harvest and site preparation treatments and continue growing through the next rotation.

In FY 2003, the Myrtlewood Field Office completed a survey on one 8 acre timber sale unit (Slide Show #2) for wildlife green tree retention. The analysis showed that Slide Show #2 achieved the minimum 6-8 green trees per acre after harvest/site preparation. The average number of trees retained was 6.13 green conifer trees/acre. The Umpqua Field Office did not conduct surveys in FY 2003, as there were no active regeneration sales to monitor.

### **Snag and Snag Recruitment**

Snag retention guidelines for regeneration harvest on Matrix lands are based upon the abundance of suitable nesting structures for primary cavity nesting birds. At the completion of harvest and site preparation activities, each sale unit must retain at a minimum sufficient habitat to support primary cavity nesting birds at the 40-percent population level and for bats specified in C-43 of the NFP ROD. For the primary cavity nesting birds on Coos Bay District, this equates to a minimum of 1.5 (all decay classes) snags per acre, 11 inches DBH or larger retained through time. Snag retention goals must be met on average areas no larger than 40 acres. If existing snags are insufficient to meet these requirements, additional green trees 11 inches DBH or greater must be retained through harvest and site preparation to offset the deficit. These additional trees are then topped or treated as necessary to create snag-habitat. Most timber harvest contracts now contain stipulations for creating snags (i.e. tree topping) after harvest. The District uses a monitoring plan and database created for wildlife trees and snags in 1997. The



plan has landscape, pre-project, post-project, harvest unit monitoring through time, salvage, and snag modeling sections.

In FY 2003, the Myrtlewood Field Office completed a survey on one 8 acre timber sale unit (Slide Show #2) for snag retention. The analysis showed that Slide Show #2 a change of 1.75 snags/ acre (pre-harvest) to 0.13 snags/ acre after harvest and site preparation. The Umpqua Field Office did not conduct surveys in FY 2003, as there were no active regeneration sales to monitor. Myrtlewood Field Office staff also administered contracts to convert the Snag and Down Log databases to ACCESS® format.

The Umpqua Field Office awarded a contract for snag creation in the Woodward Creek area for creation of approximately 1005 snags in FY 2003. The Myrtlewood Resource Area continued contract administration in FY 2003 for the Kinchloe LSR (Middle Fork Coquille and Slide Creek Drainages) for creation of 780 snags. This contract was modified to increase snag quantities an additional 98 trees with work to be completed by February 2004. A new contract was awarded in FY 2003 using JITW to create 300 snags/habitat trees on 150 acres in the Lower Sandy LSR.

### **Coarse Woody Debris Retention and Recruitment**

The Coos Bay District RMP requires that a minimum of 120 linear feet per acre of decay class 1 and 2 logs (16 inches or greater in diameter and 16 feet or greater in length) be retained on site following regeneration harvest. In addition, coarse woody debris already on the ground is to be retained and protected, to the greatest extent possible, from disturbance during treatment that might otherwise destroy the integrity of the substrate. These logs must be retained and well distributed following regeneration harvest on Matrix lands.

A District down log monitoring plan and database were completed in 1998 to provide standard and consistent procedures for monitoring down log abundance, condition and distribution on lands administered by the Coos Bay District. In FY 2003, the Myrtlewood Field Office completed a survey on one 8 acre timber sale unit (Slide Show #2) for downed wood retention. The analysis showed that Slide Show #2 did not meet the minimum 120 linear feet/acre NWFP S&Gs for down logs after harvest and site preparation. Down logs totaled 104.1 linear feet/acre after harvest and 85.6 linear feet/acre after site preparation. The Umpqua Field Office did not conduct surveys in FY 2003 as there were no active regeneration sales to monitor.

### **Nest Sites, Activity Centers, Special Habitats and Rookeries**

#### ***Great Blue Heron***

A great blue heron and great egret rookery was historically located on a three-acre area of the Coos Bay North Spit. The rookery was believed to be the northern most breeding site for great egrets on the Pacific Coast. In cooperation with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's (ODFW) heron survey program, the rookery has been monitored annually each summer since 1993. Surveys conducted in FY03 confirmed that the rookery has been abandoned since 2000. A new great egret rookery was located on the Spit but is not on BLM land. The Spruce Reach Island rookery was not monitored in FY03.



### ***Waterfowl***

Fifty wood duck boxes were monitored and maintained at the Dean Creek Elk Viewing area and other Umpqua Resource Area sites.

### ***Purple Martins***

Purple martins are a Bureau Assessment species for BLM. They are also on the critical list of state sensitive species in Oregon (Oregon Natural Heritage Program, 2001). Since 1998, 42 special "starling-proof" nest boxes have been placed at three locations in the Coos Bay area. Twenty of these nest boxes were purchased through a Challenge Cost Share project in 2000. All boxes are located on pilings in the bay. The small size of the nest box opening and their location away from land, helps discourage European starlings from using them. The objective of the project is to reestablish a permanent breeding population of purple martins in the Coos Bay area.

Prior to the nest box program, the purple martin population had essentially been extirpated in the Coos Bay area. The primary reasons for the sharp population decline of this species in the past few decades has been the removal of snags by logging and fire prevention programs, and competitive exclusion from the remaining snags by introduced European starlings. Currently there are 24 boxes located on the Coos Bay North Spit, five boxes directly behind the US Army Corps of Engineers (COE) office near downtown Coos Bay, and 13 boxes are located near Millicoma Marsh.

BLM has monitored nesting activities at these boxes in cooperation with the local Audubon Society since 1998. Boxes are also cleaned and maintained each fall by Coos Bay BLM personnel. In 2003, evidence of 23 nests were found during box cleaning. This is a 21% increase in nests from 2002. Purple martins were first observed in the Coos Bay area in 2003 at the North Spit on April 6. Eleven of the nest boxes in the bay off of the BLM boat ramp on the North Spit were occupied by purple martins. Three of the five boxes were used by purple martins behind the COE Office in Coos Bay and of the 13 boxes across from Millicoma Marsh, nine were used by purple martins.

Since the first boxes were installed in 1998, the number of purple martin nests has increased each year. This formerly extirpated species can now be heard throughout the bay area as it feeds overhead during the summer breeding season.

### ***Neotropical Migrant Birds***

Surveys this year marked the ninth year of monitoring 300 acres for neo-tropical migrant bird species composition and relative abundance to evaluate potential impacts of visitor use at New River Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). Nesting song birds were chosen as a wildlife resource indicator in an effort to monitor limits of acceptable change at the ACEC. Difference between "control" (away from trails and roads) and "treatment" (along trails and roads) points for eight species of ground and/or shrub nesting bird species are being compared to see if there are any differences in their mean numbers from year to year. Data for 2003 has yet to be analyzed; however, no major differences have been noted the first eight years. The project will continue in future years in hopes of identifying any statistically significant differences in the control and treatment bird populations (if there are any) and comparisons can be made, as necessary, to the visitor use trend analysis data. Currently the point counts have identified 84 birds as possible or probable breeding species in the area.



To date, the surveys are providing considerable information on both migratory and resident bird use in the New River Area. These data are useful for increasing our understanding of several Bureau Sensitive species found in the area. For instance, a Bureau Assessment species, vesper sparrow, was first discovered breeding along New River in 2000. This is the only known site along the Oregon Coast that this species currently breeds. Other non-breeding rarities discovered during the migration have included: black swifts (seen every year although in small numbers – may be best spot in Oregon to observe this Bureau Assessment species as there are only a hand full of known breeding sites in Oregon in the Cascades) and purple martins. Bald eagles and peregrine falcons are seen regularly along New River. Aleutian Canada geese (a recently delisted species) are present each year in late April/early May and can often be seen flying overhead with flocks numbering several hundred individuals. The area continues to attract enormous quantities of shorebirds during the spring migration in late April and early May.

### ***Elk Habitat***

The Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area is a 1,095-acre Watchable Wildlife site that is jointly managed by BLM, ODFW and Dean Creek Wildlife, Inc. This year approximately 300 acres of meadows were mowed with BLM equipment and labor to improve elk forage. BLM personnel and inmate work crews cleared blackberry along 12,000 feet of dikes in preparation for upcoming repair and dredging work. Dredging work was completed on 10,300 feet of drainage ditches to the west of Koepke Slough to help elk pastures conditions. BLM personnel and inmate



work crews also repaired two miles of fence that was down along Highway 38. Umpqua staff continued to gather data and develop plans for future restoration work that will improve a deteriorating drainage system for the elk pastures and to enhance wetlands, fish and wildlife habitat.

### ***Bats***

A total of 61 bat boxes have been placed throughout the District. These boxes provide interim habitat in areas where natural roost sites are lacking for some species of bats. No new bat houses were placed this fiscal year. All bat houses in the Myrtlewood Resource Area were monitored and maintained a minimum of two times a year, and 25 boxes in the Umpqua Resource Area were monitored and maintained during the year.

The first known roost for Townsend's big-eared bats was monitored this year at Baker Quarry. Wildlife staff assisted the District Geologist in developing a no-impact design for future quarry operations. Monitoring of the site is ongoing. Wildlife staff continued promoting an active bat education program in the local area. Approximately 930 students and visitors are reached through this program. Coos Bay BLM also provided assistance to a student from Portland State with their graduate research project. The project addresses genetic variability in bat species.



Bat monitoring included completing the initial implementation of the Oregon Grid Project which captures bats allowing the identification of the species, recording of body measurements, collecting genetic material and recording the echolocation signals of that individual. All of this information is used to establish relative densities of species, identify new distributions of species and to refine the identification of species by echolocation recordings.

## **Survey and Manage, Special Status Species – Wildlife**

### **Survey and Manage**

*The Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation measures Standards and Guidelines (S&M SEIS)* was signed in January 2001, changed the status of many S&M species and established a process for annual evaluation. As a result pre-project surveys are no longer required for many of the species, thereby, having a noticeable reduction the wildlife program workload. The S&M SEIS also outlined a Strategic Survey program for many species. The Coos Bay District participated with Strategic Surveys by conducting surveys as part of the State Office program. Coos Bay staff coordinated and conducted surveys on Coos Bay District.

Coos Bay staff reviewed and analyzed the basis for the Roseburg District BLM request for red tree vole Non-High Priority Site designation on lands adjacent to Coos Bay District. Pre-project surveys for red tree voles were conducted on 20 acres for the Myers Creek Salvage Project this year. Surveys were not required in the Umpqua Field Office in FY03.

All S&M data are being entered and stored in the Interagency Species Management System (ISMS) database. No data was entered in FY 2003 however; throughout the year the database was queried to support numerous deadlines for annual S&M species reviews.

### **Terrestrial Threatened/Endangered Species**

Consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) occurs on all activities proposed within habitat of listed species. An interagency Level 1 Review Team of biologists from the BLM, USFWS, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is involved early to assist in the analysis and, if needed, modification of project plans and Biological Assessments. A large portion of the District Wildlife Program's resources is directed toward gathering and interpreting information to ensure compliance with ESA and the RMP.

Two formal consultations were completed: one for a timber sale and the other for a right-of-way with Coos County. Six informal consultations were completed in FY 2003. These consultations included two ROW agreements, quarry operations, one timber sale. Informal consultation was also completed on western snowy plover management and a Breach Project at New River ACEC. Coos Bay staff also spent many hours of follow-up consultation review and contract monitoring on the Coos County Gas Pipeline. In addition, biologists reviewed approximately 59 road use, guyline or tailhold or other rights-of-way permits along with other BLM management actions to evaluate if consultation was necessary. RMP consultation was brought into full compliance with a review of brown pelicans which had been inadvertently left out of the species not affected by RMP actions. A biological review documenting a "no effect" conclusion was coordinated and submitted to the USFWS.



### ***Northern Spotted Owl***

Most of the District was surveyed for Spotted Owls during the 1990-1994 demographic study. There are approximately 97 known sites on the District, 75 percent of which are protected in mapped LSR's. A majority of the remaining sites have 100-acre cores (unmapped LSRs) established around them. Most of the best habitat occurs in the LSR's, as do the best owl sites (i.e. the ones with the most available habitat, stable occupancy, and successful reproduction). While most sites contain less than 40 percent of their home range radius in suitable habitat, nearly half of the protected sites contain more than 30 percent habitat. Spotted Owl sites in LSRs have been consistently occupied and producing young. The rate of annual population change on the District noted during the demographic study (seven percent annual decline) is similar to other studies suggesting that conservation measures at a scale of the species range are appropriate at the scale of the District as well. Since the Matrix contains relatively few Spotted Owl sites and 80 percent of the federal land base is protected, we expect the population to stabilize in the network of reserves.

Although the Coos Bay District did not conduct any owl surveys in FY 2003, surveys were completed on District lands through cooperation with the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station (PNW), Roseburg BLM, Oregon State University (OSU), Weyerhaeuser Co., and Plum Creek Timber Company. In addition, in FY 2003, the National Counsel for Air and Stream Improvement (NCASI) began a multi-year demography and movement study of spotted owls to assess use of thinned and unthinned forest stands. Data continues to be shared in order to maintain current owl data records for Coos Bay District lands.

### ***Bald Eagle***

There are eight bald eagle territories on District land and an additional 19 territories on other ownerships within the District boundary. All ownerships within the District boundary can potentially support eagle-nesting territories. At present, there are no known Bald Eagle roost sites on BLM land in the Coos Bay District, but there could potentially be roosts on all ownerships within the District boundaries. In FY 2003, biologists monitored nesting at two sites on Umpqua Field Office lands and three sites on Myrtlewood Field Office lands. Also, a mid-winter driving survey (approximately 45 miles) within Myrtlewood Field Office lands was conducted again this year. Coos Bay District also provided funding for a second year of survey work to monitor nesting Bald Eagles in the Umpqua and Coos basins. The monitoring was in partnership with the Oregon Eagle Foundation, OSU, U.S. Forest Service, ODFW and Roseburg District BLM. A proposal to enhance bald eagle habitat through silviculture in LSRs within the Umpqua River corridor was developed for implementation in FY05.

### ***Western Snowy Plover***

The Coos Bay North Spit and New River ACEC provide both breeding and wintering habitat for western snowy plovers. Plovers are also known to occur on five other locations (non BLM lands) within the Coos Bay District. BLM District lands currently provide 274 acres of suitable habitat for the snowy plover and assist with management on another 118 acres of plover habitat on COE lands. The North Spit continues to be the most productive nesting habitat on the Oregon Coast. One hundred acres of habitat restoration/maintenance was completed at New River bringing the cumulative total to 160 acres.



### **Summary of Snowy Plover Management Actions in FY 2003:**

- Restored and maintained breeding and wintering habitat now totaling approximately 160 acres at New River ACEC.
- Maintained about 170 acres of breeding and wintering habitat by disking encroaching beach grass on the Coos Bay North Spit. Cleared fence on about 50 acres and removed predator perches.
- Monitored plover nesting success at two BLM nesting sites through a cooperative effort with Oregon Natural Heritage Information Center, USFS, USFWS, ODFW, and Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.
- Completed a plover winter count on about 17.5 miles of beach.
- Participated on the Oregon Western Snowy Plover Working Team. BLM staff led the Outreach Subcommittee in completing an Oregon-Washington Outreach Plan as a step down plan to the Range-wide Recovery Plan. BLM staff led the Predator Subcommittee in completing a 2003 Predator Action Plan. BLM staff also participated in writing a draft step-down Strategy for Oregon-Washington Unit to support the range-wide Recovery Plan. BLM staff also provided key roles in the Media Subcommittee responding to news release opportunities and completing a Challenge Cost Share project to provide a Media photo and video package for future releases.
- Continued to provide the lead role in Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) for the New Carissa Incident.
- Placed signs and ropes along approximately six miles of beach and river habitat boundaries to direct users away from plover nesting sites. Also maintained fencing and placed signs around 170 acres of inland habitat.
- The Myrtlewood Field Office hired a seasonal interpretative specialist to monitor compliance and educate visitors near the Floras Lake portion of New River ACEC. The specialist described closure restrictions and explained reasons to visitors, gave campfire and school presentations and developed outreach materials. The Umpqua Field Office provided a dedicated staff person to monitor recreation activity and offer outreach services to visitors.
- Provided input to a statewide Habitat Conservation Plan for Oregon Parks and Recreation Department at several levels (management team and technical team).
- Contracted with Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services – Wildlife Services to conduct a predator control program at the two BLM managed plover nesting sites during the 2003 nesting season. The chairperson of the predator sub-group has been a BLM representative for the past two years.
- Coordinated a partnership contract to hire an assistant to the Working Team Chair to assist with Team completing tasks and grant writing.
- BLM staff took lead in establishing a partnership with the Oregon Zoo to pursue rearing and educational opportunities in an upcoming exhibit.

### ***Marbled Murrelet***

Surveys for Marbled Murrelets have been conducted on the Coos Bay District since 1989 and intensive survey efforts began in 1993. About 18.8 percent (18,753 acres) of suitable murrelet habitat on District has been surveyed to Pacific Seabird Group protocol for marbled murrelets. There are currently 99,970 acres of suitable marbled murrelet habitat within the District, 99 percent of which is in Zone 1 (within 35 miles of the coast). Two locations



(Camas Creek and Lower South Fork Coquille) were surveyed this year. Although no formal surveys were conducted on the Umpqua Resource Area in FY 2003, an incidental site was discovered while performing the NCASI Spotted Owl demography and movement study. Table 10 summarizes murrelet survey efforts through 2003.

Table 10. Summary of acreage designated as marbled murrelet habitat, surveyed to protocol and delineated as occupied LSR in 2003 on the Coos Bay District, BLM.			
	Acres		
	Prior to 2003	Added in 2003	To Date
<b>Total Marbled Murrelet Habitat, Coos Bay District</b> (Note: Acreage does not include Coquille Tribal lands)	99,970 <sup>a</sup>	0	99,970
<b>Marbled murrelet habitat surveyed :</b> (Note: Survey areas must have completed all requirements of the 2 year protocol.)			
Myrtlewood Resource Area	N/A	0 <sup>b</sup>	N/A
Umpqua Resource Area	N/A	180	N/A
Total	18,753 <sup>c</sup>	180	18,933
% of total murrelet habitat surveyed to protocol	18.8%		18.9%
<b>Marbled murrelet occupied LSR :</b> (Note: Represents only LSR acreage delineated as marbled murrelet occupied <sup>d</sup> )			
Myrtlewood Resource Area	9,458	40	9,498
Umpqua Resource Area	10,097	180	10,277
Total	19,555	220	19,775

<sup>a</sup> Acreage is calculated from GIS marbled murrelet habitat coverage cbmmh98.

<sup>b</sup> MRA survey sites were not designated suitable habitat in GIS so are not in habitat totals.

<sup>c</sup> From the 2002 Forest Removal & Management Activities Biological Assessment (C02-02) dated 21 Oct. 2002, p. 34, plus adjustments made for FY 2002.

<sup>d</sup> Final acreages calculated from GIS coverage cbmmocc03, so they do not total across.

N/A = Not Available



## **Other Species of Concern**

### ***Peregrine Falcon***

Within the Coos Bay District, there is one suspected peregrine falcon nest site on BLM land; there is one site on Fish and Wildlife Service land and another two suspected on State land. In total, there may be 6-8 other nest sites on all ownerships within the District boundary. On District, another new site was discovered and monitored during the 2003 breeding season. The cliff is located on private land.

### ***Townsend's Big-eared Bat***

Townsend's big-eared bats were monitored as part of the overall bat monitoring as previously described under Special Habitats. The first day/winter roost for this species was discovered in the Coos Bay District at Baker Quarry and will now be monitored. The site was discovered during biological surveys performed for input into potential quarry expansion. It was determined that this site is occupied at least during the winter and summer seasons, and is therefore considered a hibernaculum. A quarry operation plan will be developed. The plan will include continued monitoring as a component to ensure protection of the hibernaculum by measuring some of the physical environmental factors (temperature of exiting air and wind velocities of exiting air, all relative to ambient air temperatures outside of the roost entrance).

## **Survey and Manage, Special Status Species - Plants**

### **Survey and Manage**

The District continues to implement Survey and Manage (S&M) standards and guidelines as defined in the *Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Amendment to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standard and Guidelines* (January 2001). The 2002 annual species review was completed during March 2003 (Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2003-050). It changed the category placement for a number of species found in the 2001 S&M Record of Decision. Species remain on the list based upon persistence (when it has been determined that the reserve system and other Standard and Guidelines of the NFP provide for a reasonable assurance of species persistence), distribution (when it has been found that they occur within the NFP area), and association (when it has been found that they are closely associated with late-successional or old growth forests). In Oregon and Washington, a total of 304 S&M species now remain on the list. Survey information on the site, location, species, and habitat is entered in the Interagency Species Management System (ISMS) database. This information is used for designing field level management for known sites based on current management recommendations and monitoring the effectiveness of proposed management.

Of the 304 S&M species for Oregon and Washington, there are 14 botanical species known or suspected to occur on District lands (10 lichen, 2 bryophyte, 1 fungi, and 1 vascular plant) within the rare (Category A) and uncommon (Category C) categories where pre-disturbance surveys are practical to conduct.



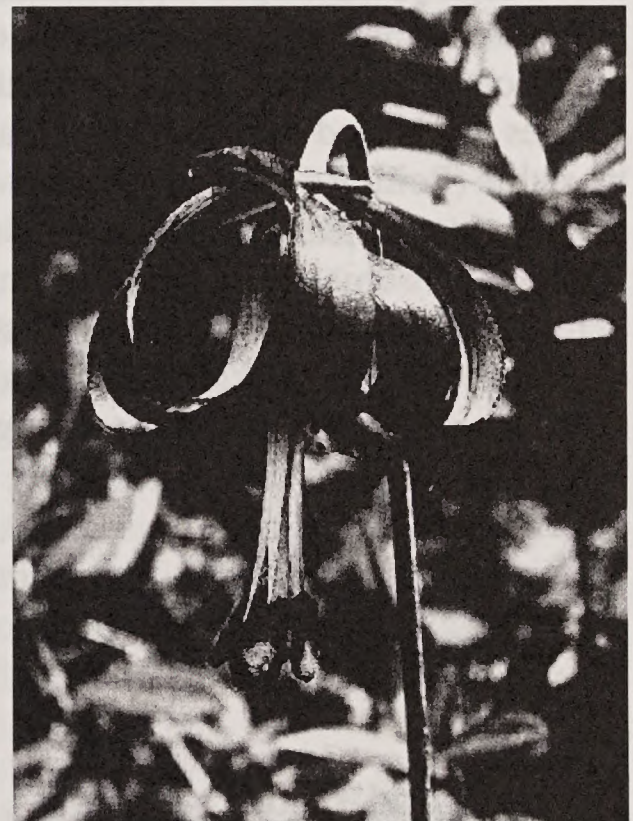
During FY 2003, a total of approximately 4,600 acres of forested lands (plus two miles of riparian area) were surveyed for S&M plant species (vascular plants, fungi, lichens, and bryophytes) in the Myrtlewood and Umpqua Field Offices. Concurrently, the presence or absence of special status plants (Bureau sensitive, assessment, and tracking) is also documented. Many new locations of S&M species in all categories, especially fungi, have been located as a result of these surveys. Over 117 new records were entered into the ISMS database. The use of Geographic Positioning System (GPS) has improved the efficiency and accuracy of field survey documentation.

Western Oregon staff met at a S&M coordinator workshop. District staff presented information on recommendations for management of S&M nonvascular plant species on the Coos Bay District for commercial thinnings. Later, the S&M program manager and BLM agency representative met with District staff for a field trip to discuss site-specific issues and concerns for the Coos Bay District.

### **Endangered Plant Species (Federal and State)**

The District is involved with partners to recover and study two endangered plants, the federally endangered western lily and the Oregon state endangered pink sand-verbena.

2002 was the eighth year of monitoring, seed collection, and habitat enhancement efforts for the western lily through a Challenge Cost Share partnership with Berry Botanic Garden. An experimentally re-introduced population of this perennial species is located at New River Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). In 1996, 120 bulbs and 640 seeds were planted in 20 plots. Over the years emergence has varied: 44% in 1997, 61% in 1998, 56% in 1999, 47% in 2000, 42% in 2001, and 39% in 2002. No plants have produced flowers to date. Surrounding vegetation at the reintroduction site is periodically trimmed. It will take many years to evaluate the success or failure of this project, but results are promising. Two new western lily sites were found by District staff, one located just outside of the New River ACEC and one located inside its boundaries.



Western Lilly

The District also continued the ninth year of monitoring, seed collection, and habitat enhancement efforts for the pink sand-verbena through a Challenge Cost Share partnership with Institute of Applied Ecology. Two re-introduced populations of this annual herb species are located on BLM land at New River and North Spit ACECs. The 2003 population size at New River ACEC is 917 (459 reproductive and 458 vegetative) and at North Spit ACEC is approximately 111,000 reproductive plants (vegetative plants were not counted due to the large

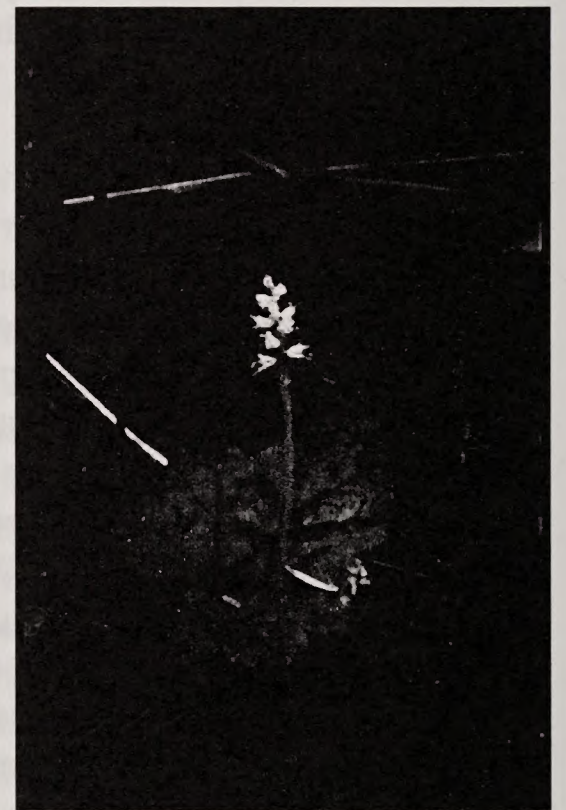


numbers). The population sizes at both sites are the largest yet observed. The North Spit ACEC contains the largest known population in the world of the pink sand-verbena! Seeds from the North Spit site were collected during October for distribution during spring 2004 at various other coastal dune areas. A draft Conservation Strategy for the species was prepared to aid and guide recovery of this annual species.

### Special Status Species

The District continues to implement BLM Policy 6840 on Special Status Species Management (January 2001) by conducting pre-disturbance surveys for special status plant species. These surveys are conducted to reduce the likelihood of the species becoming listed under the Endangered Species Act. Currently, there are 96 special status plant species (Bureau sensitive [also known as federal species of concern], assessment, and tracking) documented or suspected to occur on the District. In addition, there are 33 non-vascular special status plant species (i.e., fungi, lichens, mosses, hornworts, and liverworts) known to occur on BLM-managed lands within the District. The majority of these species are known from unique habitats such as coastal dunes, serpentine fens, bogs, cliffs, grassy balds, and meadows.

The District botany staff surveyed for silvery phacelia, a species of concern, and Henderson's checkerbloom, a species proposed for listing by the Oregon Natural Heritage Information Center. A 2002 status and trends report on the eleven Bureau sensitive plants on the district was updated with new information. One species (pink sand-verbena) is increasing, three species appear to be stable (Point Reyes bird's-beak, western lily, and silvery phacelia), and the status of the remaining seven is unknown (Oregon bensonia, Waldo gentian, many-leaf gily flower, perennial golfields, Thompson's mistmaiden, coast checkerbloom, and Leach's brodiaea). Surveys for these seven species are planned for 2004 pending staff and funding.



Oregon bensonia

### Port-Orford-Cedar

Port-Orford-cedar is a conifer tree found in southwestern Oregon and northwestern California. It is infected by an introduced pathogen, *Phytophthora lateralis*, which causes Port-Orford-cedar root disease. The root disease is nearly always fatal to the Port-Orford-cedar trees it infects, reducing Port-Orford-cedar in the ecosystem and impacting other resources dependent upon it. Research shows the rate of spread of the root disease is linked, at least in part, to transport of spore-infected soil by human and other vectors. Water-borne spores then readily spread the pathogen down slope and down stream. It is estimated that 80 percent of all green, living POC



trees on the Coos Bay District are scattered and well distributed away from streams and roads where mitigation measures are not needed. In these areas of low risk for infection, POC trees are expected to maintain their population.

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the USDA Forest Service (FS) are preparing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to consider management alternatives for Port-Orford-cedar affecting the Coos Bay, Medford and Roseburg BLM Districts and Siskiyou National Forest in Oregon.

This supplemental environmental impact statement is being used to develop alternatives for maintaining Port-Orford-cedar on federal forests in Oregon. A public scoping period to identify issues to be addressed in the SEIS ran from February through March 2003. After the public scoping period, the planning team assessed the comments and developed alternatives to be addressed in the analysis. A Draft SEIS was released in June 2003 with public comments on the Draft SEIS being received in September 2003. A Final SEIS for Port-Orford-cedar will be completed in January 2004 and the Record of Decision signed in May 2004.

## **Sudden Oak Death**

Sudden Oak Death (SOD) is caused by the fungal-like organism *Phytophthora ramorum*. SOD causes stem canker, leaf spotting, and plant mortality. Known hosts where mortality is common are Tanoak, canyon live oak, rhododendron, and evergreen huckleberry. Other host species native to the Coos Bay District includes bigleaf maple, madrone, manzanita, Oregon myrtle, coffeeberry, poison oak, and Douglas-fir. How the disease is spread is not completely understood by disease pathologists.

SOD was first detected in Oregon near Brookings in July 2001. There were three, small known infection centers on BLM land and six others on private land. A "regulated area" of 9 square miles was established that encompasses the Oregon SOD sites. Movement of all host material and soil associated with host root stock is restricted from within this quarantine area.

Forest pathologists believe that this is the early stage of SOD introduction into Oregon and that eradication is a viable option for disease management. On diseased site, eradication includes slashing and burning, follow up monitoring, manual maintenance, and herbicide use on private lands. BLM is in partnership with private land owners, Oregon Department of Agriculture, Oregon State University, Oregon Department of Forestry, and US Forest Service to contain the spread of SOD.

In FY 2003, two aerial surveys were flown that covered 825,000 acres inland along the southern Oregon coast. No *Phytophthora ramorum* was detected outside the regulated area. Eight new sites covering 6 acres with SOD were detected during the course of eradication and monitoring activities within the regulated area. All of these sites were small, 0.2 to 1 acre, and in close proximity to previously identified sites. Only one of the sites was on BLM lands.



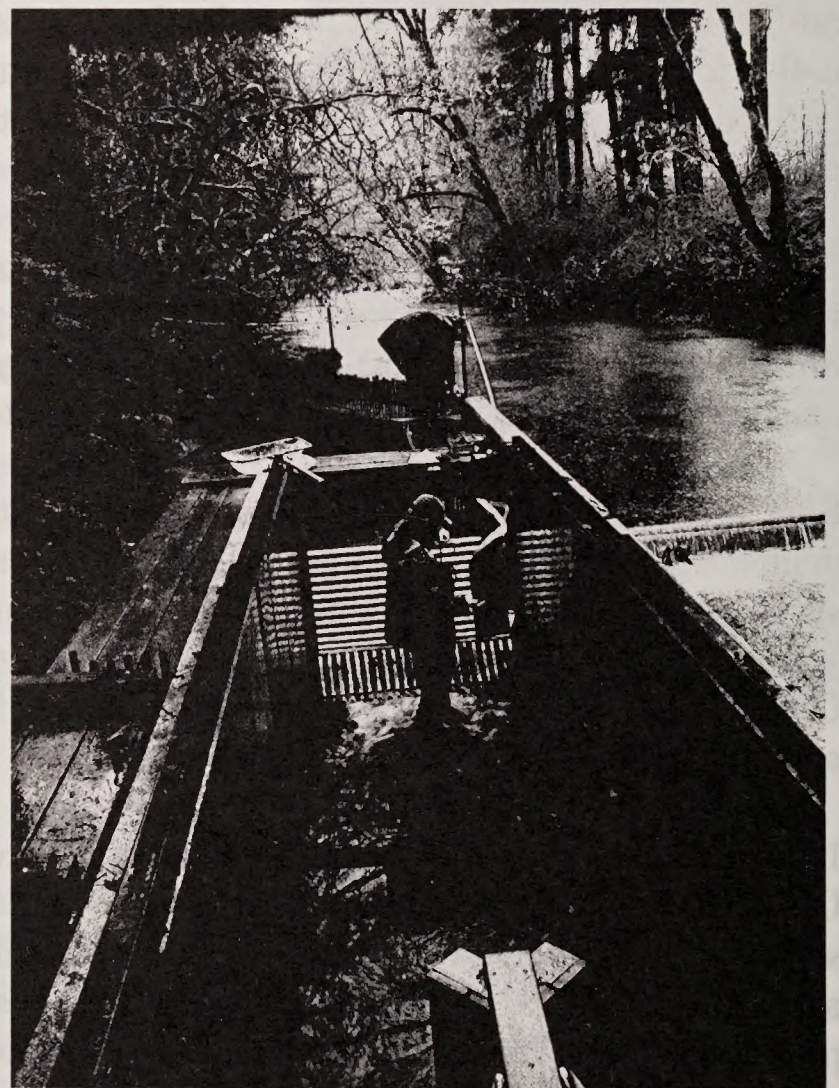
## Fish Habitat

The Coos Bay District Fishery Program during FY 2003 continued the on-going work of implementing the Aquatic portion of the Northwest Forest Plan. The District is staffed with three full-time and one part-time Fishery Biologists, plus one Fishery Biologist who had a detail as a Field Office Restoration Coordinator. Major duties are divided among the following workloads: watershed restoration, watershed analysis, NEPA documentation, timber and salvage sales and other project reviews, inventory and data collection, biological assessment preparation and Section 7 consultation with NOAA Fisheries. There was also support to the fire suppression effort by the fishery staff of both field offices. Additionally, the District has been very active in providing fisheries expertise to five local watershed councils in support of the State's Plan for Salmon and Watersheds.

### Fisheries Inventory and Assessment

**Research Coordination** – Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) - The Umpqua Field Office (UFO), in coordination with the ODFW Salmonid Life-Cycle Monitoring Project, supported the operation of smolt and adult salmonid traps on the West Fork of the Smith River. This monitoring will be helpful in assessing the population of adult coho and chinook salmon and steelhead trout in a non-key watershed (17,100 acres) with mixed federal and private ownership, as well as required monitoring of the State of Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds. End of year report for the 2003 operating season show the following: 16,019 coho smolts; 80,876 coho fry; 933 chinook fry; 2,448 steelhead smolts and 1599 steelhead fingerlings, and 159 trout fry were the estimated number of out-migrants for each species. Adult trapping showed that 14 adult chinook, 288 adult coho, and 119 adult steelhead were caught. Based on mark and recapture spawning survey numbers, returning adult spawner estimates were 3,459 coho and 348 steelhead. Incidentally caught coastal cutthroat trout were counted (1,235), but not marked.

Objectives of this monitoring are to estimate freshwater and marine survival rates of coho salmon. Enough brood years have been monitored to calculate freshwater and marine survival rates as displayed in Table 11.



ODFW trapping adult salmon at the West Fork Smith River fish trap



Table 11. Freshwater and Marine Survival for West Fork Smith River Salmonid Life-Cycle Monitoring

FY	Eggs deposited	Smolts	Fresh-Water survival (%)	Return year	Adult returns		Marine survival (%)	
					Male	Female	Total	Female
1996	-	22,412		1999	160	104	1.2	0.9
1997	-	10,866		2000	295	243	5.0	4.5
1998	-	14,851		2001	787	715	10.2	9.8
1999	291,955	20,091	6.9	2002	2,036	1,423	17.2	14.2
2000	642,747	17,358	2.7					
2001	2,099,982	16,019	0.8					
2002	4,542,580							

This salmonid life-cycle monitoring has drawn other aquatic vertebrate/habitat research work to the West Fork Smith River watershed. Umpqua Field Office fishery biologists are supporting aspects of coordination, as well as logistical and tactical field support for the following research projects on the West Fork Smith River. BLM fisheries biologist coordinated with research leads as well as 3 ODFW offices, Roseburg Forest Products, NOAA Fisheries, and watershed councils.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - In 2003, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) continued implementation of a research project in West Fork Smith River titled ***'Landscape and Watershed Influences on Wild Salmon and Fish Assemblages in Oregon Coast Streams'*** investigating landscape management factors influencing abundance, distribution, growth, and freshwater survival of juvenile coho on a watershed scale. As part of this research, EPA implanted Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tags in 4280 age-0 coho (2001 brood). Fish condition, movement, and habitat use are determined upon re-capture.

U.S. Forest Service, Corvallis Forestry Sciences Laboratory - The BLM Oregon State Office has entered a Government Accounting Office funded cost share research project with the Forest Service to examine fish passage through newly replaced culverts. In 2003, researchers implanted Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tags in 539 cutthroat and steelhead trout in the West Fork Smith River and 3 tributary streams in addition to having the 4,280 PIT tagged coho available from the EPA research. A fourth culvert was equipped with a PIT reader and recorders to document fish passage.

NOAA Fisheries – In 2003, field investigation was conducted by NOAA Fisheries as a result of cost share funded research into fish and macro-invertebrate diversity and use of in-channel boulder weirs as habitat structures on bedrock dominated stream channels. Four boulder weir reaches and adjacent control reaches on the West Fork Smith River were snorkeled to determine fish utilization of weirs as habitat.



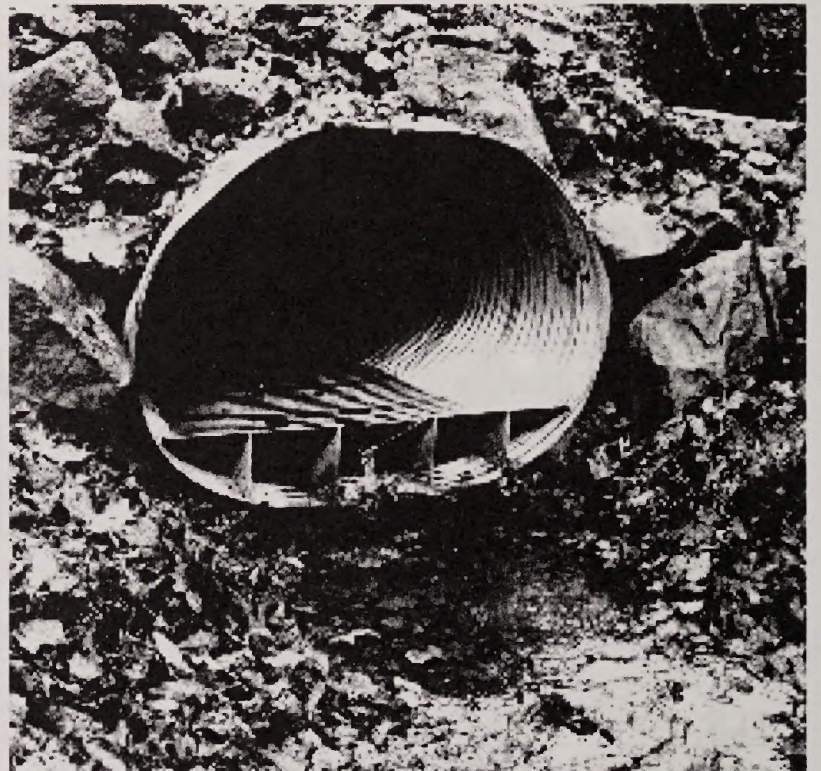
**Spawning Surveys** –Umpqua Field Office personnel conducted surveys to document adult salmonid passage through culverts replaced in previous years (7.0 miles) and pre-and post completion on habitat restoration projects (4.0 miles).

Fisheries personnel in the Myrtlewood Field Office conducted numerous spawning surveys for fall chinook salmon, coho salmon, and steelhead. This information is used for general monitoring purposes, as well as for analyzing population trends. Survey reaches chosen are coordinated with ODFW to avoid redundancy, and spawning data is shared. Throughout the spawning season 13 separate stream reaches, totaling approximately 10.0 miles, were surveyed on a weekly basis. Surveyors observed 24 adult chinook salmon, one chinook jack, and 13 chinook redds. Also, 619 adult coho salmon, 71 coho jacks, 327 coho redds, 79 adult steelhead, and 185 steelhead redds were observed. This information will be summarized in a report, and distributed to the ODFW, and other resource management agencies.

### **Aquatic Habitat Restoration**



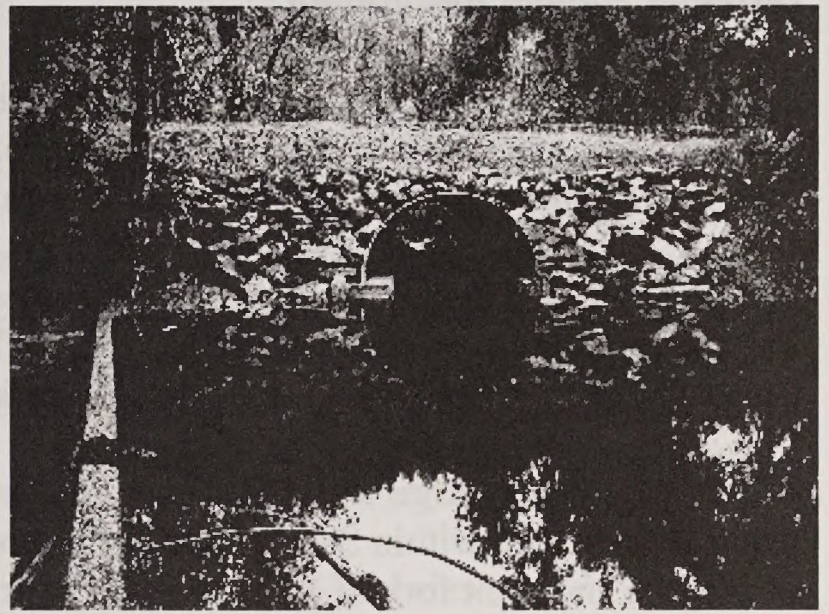
South Sisters '13B' before



South Sisters '13B' after

**Fish Passage Restoration (Culverts and Tide Gates)** – The Umpqua Field Office had an aggressive fish passage culvert replacement/modification program in FY 2003. Eleven fish passage culverts were replaced, 2 culverts were modified to provide adult and juvenile fish passage and one culvert was removed to allow the site to fix grade through a winter before being replaced in FY 2004. This work improved passage to approximately 13.0 miles of upstream habitat. Major culvert replacements occurred on Crane Creek, Mosetown Creek, Grunt Creeks and Devil's Club Creek which are all in the Smith River watershed. One fish passage culvert associated with a non-discretionary road right-of-way was replaced according to BLM specifications at permittees expense which improved fish access to 1 mile of upstream habitat. Survey work was also completed on 3 culverts by the engineering and fisheries staff for future replacement. Under the authority of the Wyden Amendment, the UFO also cooperated with 2 watershed councils for the replacements of 2 tide gates, one in the lower Smith River and one in the lower Coos River.





Crane Creek Culvert site before and after culvert replacement

In the MFO, a total of six culverts were replaced to improve anadromous and resident fish passage. Two of the replaced culverts were in the right fork of Yankee Run Creek. This work improved passage to roughly 3.0 miles of habitat upstream. The left fork of Yankee Run Creek, Axe Creek, North Fork Elk Creek, and Hantz Creek were also replaced. A design for the culvert for South Fork of Elk Creek was completed. Fisheries staff from the MFO assisted with the survey and design work on South Fork Elk Creek, to be replaced in FY 2004. Several additional culverts were determined to have passage problems; one culvert is funded for FY 2004, and one other is proposed for replacement is FY 2005. The remaining culverts have had field assessments, such as Lausch Creek, and will be proposed for replacement in subsequent years.



Right Fork Yankee Run Creek before and after culvert replacement

A culvert inventory, initiated in FY 2003 and administered by engineering, began in the Middle Fork Coquille and Smith River watersheds on BLM lands, fisheries designated the prioritized locations. A private contractor was employed to conduct the inventory, which is scheduled to continue through FY 2004. This tabulation may reveal where more BLM fish passage issues occur.



### ***Instream Habitat Restoration***

In-stream restoration was conducted in 0.75 miles of Mosetown Creek as a result of a non-discretionary road right-of-way permit. Approximately 50 key piece size logs were placed at permittee's expense, which improved in-stream habitat for resident and anadromous salmonids.

The planning and layout of in-stream structure covering 8.5 miles of stream channel on 4 streams for future implementation was conducted by UFO fishery biologists this year. The 4 streams are Halfway Creek, Big Creek, South Sisters Creek and Paradise Creek.

Within MFO, four large wood placement projects were implemented. Sixty-seven pieces of large wood were placed within Sandy Creek to improve spawning habitat for chinook and coho. The main stem and right fork of Yankee Run Creek received 121 pieces of large wood to improve spawning and rearing habitat for coho. Also at Yankee Run, noxious weeds (blackberries) were removed to prepare for planting to enhance the Riparian Reserve. Within Hantz Creek, 78 logs were placed or repositioned to improve spawning and rearing habitat for steelhead and coho. Within New River Estuary, large wood was placed in strategic areas of the channel margin to add complexity to the habitat and to accumulate debris.

Also within FY 2003, MFO planned and completed the layout of four large wood projects: Elk Creek, West Fork Floras Creek, Smith Creek, and Dement Creek. To date, Elk Creek and Smith Creek have both been funded and will be implemented within the in-stream season of FY 2004. West Fork Floras Creek is proposed for funding in FY 2005, and Dement Creek was implemented early within FY 2004 (October). Also, several large pieces of wood that had fallen onto the Camas Creek road on two separate occasions were placed within Camas Creek to improve complexity of habitat for cutthroat trout.

### **Technical Expertise and Support**

In support of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds, fisheries professionals on the District have worked closely with local watershed associations. These biologists have provided technical guidance and support for five separate watershed associations. This is an ongoing effort that occurs throughout the year and one that can have a large influence on the quality and effectiveness of aquatic restoration projects being designed and implemented on private lands in our area. This continues to be a priority for the District.



## Project Monitoring

In MFO, pre- and post- project monitoring project was not conducted due to limited staffing and funds. Staff participated in off-district fisheries projects with other agencies.

Pre- and post- project monitoring was completed in the UFO for several instream habitat restoration projects. Monitoring methods included documentation of fish utilization, and/or establishing photo points. Information collected will be compared with reference reaches and baseline information to determine the effectiveness of each project and to monitor changes in habitat condition. Culvert projects listed in Table 12 were also monitored for effectiveness after completion.

Table 12. Monitoring completed for 2003/2004 Restoration Projects				
Project	Photo Points	Pebble Counts	Spawning Surveys	Fish Distribution/ Passage
Big Creek and Halfway Creek Phase II, and So. Sisters Creek	X	X	X	
Culverts: Crane Creek	X		X	X
Mosetown Cr.	X		X	X
Grunt Creek	X			
Soup Creek	X			

## Riparian Improvement

Riparian planting was conducted by MFO fisheries biologists in the Steel Creek and New River areas. Noxious weed removal also occurred at most sites that received plantings.

To set stand trajectory toward growth of future large woody debris the Umpqua Field Office completed density management of 68 acres in Riparian Reserves, and converted 9 acres of Riparian Reserve hardwoods to mixed conifer stands.

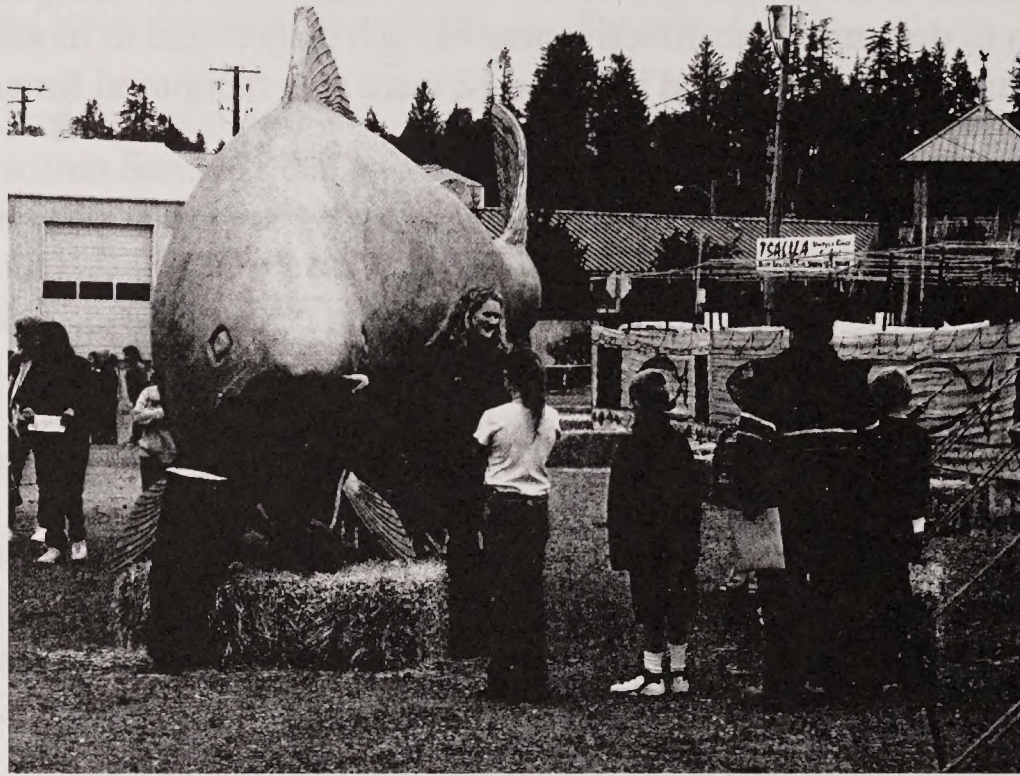
## ESA Section 7 Consultation

Two Evolutionarily Significant Units (ESU's) for anadromous fish are listed on the Coos Bay District. The Oregon Coast and Southern Oregon/Northern California coho salmon remain listed as threatened. All "may affect" projects were consulted on and the Biological Assessments (BA's) included major categories such as timber sales, restoration activities, recreation activities and routine program support actions. During FY 03, fishery biologists in the MFO completed five BA's for large projects. Staff also completed programmatic reporting and represented the district lead fishery biologist at several Level 1 team meetings.



## Environmental Education

Biologists also participated in the “Tsalila” Watershed Festival and school programs. The program included classroom presentations and field trips for Reedsport schools. Lessons learned from the school program were presented at the three-day festival along with hands-on learning opportunities and “edutainment”. The program focuses on healthy watersheds, local Native American traditions within these watersheds and restoration of watersheds in the Umpqua basin.



Wildlife and Fisheries biologists also made presentations to local school students, teachers, civic and professional organizations, and campground visitors. Topics included bats, snowy plovers, birds, aquatic resources, habitat restoration, and watershed related issues. Numerous grade school classes from around the state were taken to intertidal areas, where they learned important aspects of the marine environment. Support to career seminars included presentations at two Women in Science Forums and Reedsport High School Career Day.



## Special Areas

The District has 11 designated special areas that total 10,098 acres. The acreage has increased with updated GIS coverage obtained in 2002. Ten are Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC): Cherry Creek, China Wall, Hunter Creek Bog, New River, North Fork Chetco, North Fork Coquille, North Fork Hunter Creek, North Spit, Tioga Creek, and Wassen Creek. Cherry Creek is also a Research Natural Area (RNA). Powers is an Environmental Education Area.

An Information Bulletin (No. OR-2003-153) called for information to develop corporate level geospatial data for ACECs. The District provided theme and database information for the 11 sites. Site-specific implementation activities within the ACECs included the following:

### China Wall ACEC:

- A site visit was conducted to assess its current condition and determine potential impacts or threats.

### Hunter Creek ACEC:

- In collaboration with an adjacent rancher, we are resolving a long-term livestock trespass within the ACEC. To date, the rancher has successfully removed over thirty head of free-roaming cattle from remote serpentine meadows throughout the area.
- Developed and began implementing a monitoring plan to measure recovery of these unique meadows as livestock pressure is reduced and eventually eliminated.
- Developed an interdisciplinary team to evaluate a possible land exchange with South Coast Timber Company that would allow BLM to acquire inholdings within the ACEC and block up public lands between the North Fork Hunter Creek ACEC and the Hunter Creek Bog ACEC.



Pitcher plants at Hunter Creek Bog



## New River ACEC:



- Successfully implemented four cooperative management agreements with ranchers adjacent to the New River ACEC, which included the installation of four miles of riparian fence along New River to protect estuarine and coastal dune habitats.
- Successfully implemented a cooperative management agreement with Curry County that adjusted beach restrictions for the Snowy Plover near Floras Lake. This adjustment led to the opening of a section of BLM-managed beach that is well-liked by recreationists and the summer closure of a more remote beach on county land that is considered higher quality habitat for the plover.
- Developed the New River Health project in collaboration with local landowners and other federal, state, and local agencies. The project is designed to seasonally breach New River across the foredune to the ocean in order to improve estuarine and coastal dune habitats for threatened species while providing adequate flood relief on adjacent ranchlands.
- Signs for interpretation and visitor information were installed.
- A neotropical bird count was conducted during the spring.
- Successfully upgraded facilities and infrastructure at the public day-use area at New River. Projects included installing a new public restroom at the boat ramp, road and parking lot improvements, refinishing the exterior of the learning center and other buildings on site, and improving the overall accessibility for the disabled of the site.
- A watchable wildlife sign was installed on Highway 101 to direct the public to the day-use site at New River.
- Two seasonal interpreters led guided hikes and hosted programs at the Helen Waring Learning Center throughout the summer.
- Continued implementation of the coastal dune habitat restoration project along New River. Seven snowy plovers successfully fledged from nests located within the restoration area this summer. Bull-dozers scalped approximately 40 acres of the beach foredune to



eradicate European beach grass on the west side of the New River drainage. To date, about 160 acres have been cleared. Open sandy areas benefit the Western Snowy Plover, pink sand-verbena, yellow sand-verbena, silvery phacelia, and other native dune species. European beach grass was hand pulled from a previously bull-dozed quarter mile stretch by about eighty volunteers during Public Lands Day in September.



Removing beach grass to improve Snowy Plover habitat at New River  
Nation Public Lands Day - August 2003

#### North Fork Coquille ACEC:

- A site visit was conducted to assess its current condition and determine potential impacts or threats.
- Information on projects and other activities conducted in the ACEC was compiled.



#### North Spit ACEC:

- A contractor is digitizing a map of plant communities and preparing an associated database.
- A memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Army Corps of Engineers and the BLM is being drafted. The MOU will allow for improved communication and management of adjacent lands on the Spit, in particular plover nesting areas.
- A team is reviewing the 1995 Coos Bay Shorelands Plan and preparing a North Spit Management Plan Update. An outreach plan was developed, including website, to keep the community informed and involved. A sign plan to improve interpretation and resource protection will be included as an appendix in the update.
- Habitat maintenance (disking) was conducted to remove European beach grass from plover habitat restoration areas (HRAs).
- Public comments were solicited on the North Spit Plan Update.
- Public compliance monitoring was completed for seasonal Western Snowy Plover closures and inland areas closed to vehicular traffic. Greater emphasis was placed this year on public outreach and education.
- Purple Martin use of established nest boxes on pilings and dolphins adjacent to BLM lands was documented.
- Removal of the New Carissa ship wreckage has not occurred.
- Sand was cleared from the perimeter of the fence enclosing the 1994 habitat area.
- The Great Blue Heron rookery was surveyed for signs of use. The rookery has been abandoned since 2000 and no birds were present in 2003.
- The pink sand-verbena population was monitored for distribution and abundance. Seeds were collected for other reintroduction projects.
- The Point Reyes bird's-beak population, an annual herb, continues to thrive and continues to be protected from vehicles through the use of barricades and a re-routed road around the site.
- The threatened coastal population of Western Snowy Plover was monitored for distribution, abundance, and reproductive success.



Remains of the New Carissa



## Cultural Resources Including American Indian Values

During FY 2003 the District continued involvement at Cape Blanco, with a major repair and maintenance project. A four-month long \$240,000 project for the repair and maintenance of the Cape Blanco lighthouse was completed and was the focus of the cultural program for a majority of the year. The project was conducted in conjunction with several partnering organizations, including: The U.S. Coast Guard, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, the Coquille Indian Tribe, the Friends of Cape Blanco and the Oregon Chapter of the U.S. Lighthouse Society. Partnering organizations contributed \$80,000 toward the project.

This project included replacement of the 133-year old copper roof, installation of tempered-glass windows in the lantern room and new louvers for the tower, repainting of the exterior and repair of previously-unknown structural damage to the roof support rafters.



Repairing the roof on the Cape Blanco Lighthouse

Structural problems at the Wells Creek Guard Station (built in 1934 by the CCC) were evaluated. Repairs to the building were made by the Coos Fire Protection Association, who leases the building for use by their forest ranger.

For the second year, the District participated with the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians, by making available tule (*Scirpus acutus*). Tule is an important sedge family plant which is found on BLM-managed property adjacent to the Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area. Tule is used for constructing sitting/sleeping mats and duck decoys.

In addition to these specific activities, the cultural program has been involved in clearance of ground-disturbing project localities and evaluation of cultural resource potential for District projects. Cultural resources were addressed in decisions made concerning 18 proposed undertakings including: trail and road construction/renovation; culvert replacement; hazard tree removal in recreation sites; riparian and stream enhancement; and timber management projects. RMP requirements were met.



## Visual Resources

Classification of lands in the Coos Bay District are as follows:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Acres</u>
VRM Class I	600
VRM Class II	6,600
VRM Class III	14,700
VRM Class IV	303,930

BLM lands in the District were monitored to meet the following visual quality objectives:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Objectives</u>
VRM Class I	Preserve the existing character of landscapes
VRM Class II	Retain the existing character of landscapes
VRM Class III	Partially retain the existing character of landscapes
VRM Class IV	Allow major modifications of existing character of landscapes

## Rural Interface Areas

An ingress and egress mechanical fuels reduction project within interface areas (funded by National Fire Plan dollars in 2824 - Wildand Urban Interface) was accomplished on 74 miles of road for 428 acres.

## Recreation

Visitation figures for a number of sites on the Coos Bay District increased in 2003 as economic conditions and tourism-related travel recovered from the lows seen in 2001-2002. Of particular note was a 17% increase in the number of visits to the Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area, likely due to the site's proximity to two major tourism travel corridors. New River saw the sharpest increase with a 31% surge in visitation from 8,921 in 2002 to 12,976 in 2003. This increase is due to the site's proximity to the US 101 corridor, the addition of a new directional sign on the highway, offering guided interpretive programs on weekends and hosting a large National Public Lands Day event.

Table 13 outlines visitation at each of the District's developed recreation sites, Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMA), and Extensive Recreation Management Areas (ERMA) in 2003. The ERMA includes all of the recreation sites and BLM administered lands outside of SRMAs. The following recreation use statistics have been tracked and documented in the BLM's 2003 Recreation Management Information System (RMIS) report.

Note: A visit is defined as a visit to BLM administered land and/or waters by a person for the purpose of engaging in any recreational activity (except those which are part of, or incidental to the pursuit of a gainful occupation) whether for a few minutes, full day or more.



Table 13. Extensive and Special Recreation Management Areas (ERMA/SRMA)		
Umpqua Field Office SRMAs	Acres	Visits
Loon Lake SRMA <sup>1</sup>		
Loon Lake Campground	78.86	53,626
East Shore Campground	51.51	1,804
Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area SRMA	1,095.00	518,448
Coos Bay Shorelands SRMA <sup>2</sup>	1,726.45	18,002
Umpqua SRMA Total	2,951.82	591,880
<b>Umpqua ERMA &amp; Recreation Sites</b>		
Smith River Falls Campground	81.29	4,900
Vincent Creek Campground	3.5	7,050
Fawn Creek Campground	5	140
Park Creek Campground	60	300
Big Tree Recreation Site	20	60
Sub Total Developed Sites	169.79	12,450
Dispersed use for Umpqua ERMA	194,278	34,800
Umpqua ERMA Total	194,448	47,250
<b>Total Umpqua Field Office</b>	<b>197,400</b>	<b>639,130</b>
Myrtlewood Field Office SRMAs	Acres	Visits
New River ACEC/SRMA	1,168	12,976
Sixes River SRMA <sup>3</sup>		
Sixes River Campground	120	1,677
Edson Creek Campground	45	8,482
Myrtlewood SRMA Total	1,333	23,135
<b>Myrtlewood ERMA &amp; Recreation Sites</b>		
Cape Blanco Lighthouse (NHS)	32	13,819
Burnt Mountain Campground	38	1,000
Bear Creek	80	3,024
Palmer Butte Scenic Overlook	40	500
Sub Total Developed Sites	190	18,343
Dispersed Use for Myrtlewood ERMA	126,978	176,350
Myrtlewood ERMA Total	127,097	194,693
<b>Total Myrtlewood Field Office</b>	<b>128,430</b>	<b>217,828</b>
<b>Total Coos Bay District</b>	<b>325,830</b>	<b>856,958</b>

<sup>1</sup> Loon Lake SRMA includes Loon Lake and East Shore Campgrounds.

<sup>2</sup> Includes the North Spit ACEC, North Spit Boat Ramp.

<sup>3</sup> Sixes River SRMA includes Sixes River and Edson Creek Campgrounds.



**Recreation use permits for camping & day use issued at campgrounds and fees collected in 2003:**

<u>Fee Demonstration Project Site:</u>	<u>Number of Recreation Use Permits Issued</u>	<u>Fees Collected</u>
Loon Lake/East Shore	11,888	\$122,498.88
Sixes & Edson Campgrounds	1,631	\$14,029.00
Cape Blanco Lighthouse	1,196	\$4,920.26
Total	14,715	\$141,448.14



The waterfront at Loon Lake Campground

Recreation fee revenues in Coos Bay increased by 10% over 2002 collections. The enhanced reservation system at Loon Lake, increased use at Edson Campground and the addition of Cape Blanco as a new fee site all added to this rise in revenue.

**Special Recreation Permits (SRP) Issued:**

Two Special Recreation Permits were issued in the Umpqua Field Office in 2003 for a commercial outfitter guide service and for the annual Dune Fest event in Winchester Bay. Pre-application conferences were conducted FY 2003 with three commercial tour companies preparing to offer guided tours of the Cape Blanco Lighthouse in FY 2004.



## Recreation Trails Managed:

<b>Umpqua Field Office</b>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Use type</u>	<u>Visits</u>
Loon Lake Waterfall Trail	1.0	Hike	5,110
Blue Ridge Trail	12.0	Hike/bike/horse/OHV	1,400
<u>Big Tree</u>	<u>0.5</u>	Hike/interpretive	<u>125</u>
<b>Total:</b>	13.5		6,635

## Myrtlewood Field Office

Doerner Fir Trail #T801	0.8	Hike/interpretive	600
New River (7 Trails) #T802	3.5	Hike/interpretive	1,242
Hunter Creek Trails #T803	2.5	Hike	400
<u>Euphoria Ridge Trail #T804</u>	<u>10.0</u>	Mountain Bike	<u>600</u>
<b>Total:</b>	16.8		2,842
<b>Coos Bay District Totals:</b>	30.3		9,477

## Off-Highway Vehicle Designations Managed (acres):

	<u>Open</u>	<u>Limited</u>	<u>Closed</u>
Umpqua Field Office	80	195,515	1,805
<u>Myrtlewood Field Office</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>126,532</u>	<u>1,898</u>
<b>District Total</b>	80	322,167	3,583

## Major Recreation Projects :

- Updated and expanded the reservation system at Loon Lake to provide better service while lowering costs and increasing campground occupancy (fee receipts went up 9% over FY 2002). Loon Lake was selected as one of the first three recreation sites in BLM to be put into the new on-line National Recreation Reservation Service, which will eventually service all reservable federal recreation facilities.
- Initiated a new Recreation Fee Demonstration Project at Cape Blanco in August and collected \$4,920 in fee receipts. Expecting to collect at least \$21,000 in 2004. Efforts are continuing to lowering the BLM's base budget spending at this site.
- The Coos Regional Trails Partnership – Water Trails working group developed and produced the Coos Bay Estuary Water Trails brochure to market flat water kayaking in the region. Brochure printing was funded by the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve, Coos County Parks, the Port of Coos Bay and Coos Bay BLM.
- Maintained the Blue Ridge and Euphoria Ridge trail systems and removed noxious weeds from the Sixes River Campground through an assistance agreement with the Northwest Youth Corps.
- Worked with Curry County to reopen the popular Floras Lake beach in exchange for Curry County providing further protection for snowy plover nesting habitat on a county owned beach to the north. Resulted in improved nesting habitat for the plover while enhancing recreation and tourism opportunities in Curry County.



- BLM cooperated with Douglas County, the U.S. Forest Service, Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation and the community of Winchester Bay to support the annual Dune Fest. This year Dune Fest attracted over 3,500 participants during this three day event.
- Installed a Web Cam and remote weather station at Loon Lake to provide better service to visitors while reducing dramatically the number of weather-related phone calls answered by staff. The site @ <http://presys.com/l/o/loonlake/loonlake.htm>, quickly became the most popular BLM web sites in Oregon, averaging over 1,500 hits per month.

### **Status of Recreation Area Management Plans:**

#### **Umpqua Field Office**

- Loon Lake SRMA Management Plan - completed 2002.
- Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area SRMA- completed 1993, amended 1998.
- Loon Lake SRMA Operations Plan - completed 1997
- Coos Bay Shorelands SRMA - completed 1995, to be updated in 2004.
- Park Creek Campground Site Plan - completed 1998.
- Smith River Falls & Vincent Creek Campgrounds Site Plans - completed FY 1999.
- Vincent Creek House historical assessment completed FY 2001.
- Big Tree recreation site - recreation plan completed FY 1999.
- Blue Ridge multi-use trail plan - completed 1998.

#### **Myrtlewood Field Office**

- New River ACEC/SRMA Management Plan - completed 1995 (trail/interpretive planning/implementation FY 1999). Visitor use monitoring plan initiated in FY 2001.
- Sixes River SRMA - Recreation Area Management Plan - completed FY 2000.
- Cape Blanco Lighthouse National Historic Site - Interim Management Plan completed 1996.
- Hunter Creek Bog ACEC Management Plan - completed 1996 (trail planning FY 1999).
- Euphoria Ridge Trail - completed 1999.
- Doerner Fir trail plan & trail head construction - completed FY 1999.

### **Interpretation and Environmental Education Programs/Projects:**

During 2003, 18,812 visitors to the region received personalized interpretive services and programs from Coos Bay District staff and volunteers. Some interpretation and environmental education highlights from 2003 include:

#### ***New River ACEC:***

- A new temporary sign was installed at Floras Lake, informing visitors about changes in land management and restrictions during the snowy plover nesting season (threatened species) and two permanent signs were revised to reflect changes in snowy plover management.
- At Muddy Lake, a new permanent sign was designed for the wildlife viewing platform covering wildlife identification and observation.



- The New River trail brochure was revised and updated and is currently in the state office for printing.
- The Ellen Warring Learning Center was opened to the public on weekends and nature walks were conducted throughout the summer by seasonal interpreters.

#### ***Cape Blanco Lighthouse:***

- New interpretive displays were designed, fabricated and installed in the lighthouse and Greeting Center covering the following themes:
  - History of the lighthouse
  - Reconstruction
  - Equipment used for reconstruction (hands-on display)
  - Keepers of Yesteryear
  - Tools of the Trade
  - The Heart of the Lighthouse (Fresnel lens)
  - Plying the Pacific Coast (lighthouse tenders)
  - Meet Today's Keepers
- BLM staff developed and produced a video on the lighthouse reconstruction and it was shown in the Greeting Center throughout the operating season.

#### ***Loon Lake Recreation Area & Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area:***

- The seasonal interpreter at Loon Lake presented evening campfire and children's programs for over 800 visitors during the 2003 summer recreation season.
- Roving volunteer interpreters at the Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area contacted over 4,500 visitors during the summer of 2003. Formal interpretive programs at Dean Creek were also presented to 130 people as part of the Elderhostel program.

#### ***Other Projects:***

- The District Interpretive Specialist assisted with planning and conducting introductory interpretive training at the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve for agency staff, volunteers and interested persons. Topics covered the history of interpretation, basic components (Tilden's principles, etc.), and how to use hand-held objects during programs.
- BLM assisted the Oregon Coastal Environments Awareness Network (OCEAN) team to design interpretive signs for BLM and other recreation sites in the region.
- District Interpretive Specialist assisted Klamath Falls BLM in developing interpretive signs for the Wood River Wetland.
- District staff conducted a variety (tidepools, snowy plovers, Leave No Trace, wildlife adaptation, etc.) of environmental education programs in the region for school and other interested groups.
- At Tsalila (our annual salmon festival) the partnership team planned and conducted field trips, sponsored two education days for 2,000 students, and conducted a festival for the general public attracting over 7,000 participants.
- The District Interpretive Specialist co-wrote the interagency snowy plover outreach plan for Oregon and Washington.



## **SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS**

Coos Bay District has been successful in contributing to local, state, national and international economies through monetary payments, sustainable use of BLM-managed lands and resources, and use of innovative contracting and other implementation strategies.

In 2003 the Coos Bay District contributed to the local economy by auctioning seven timber sales allowing the harvest of almost 29 MMBF of timber. Over 5,700 acres of young stands were treated through contracts valued at \$725,000. The District issued over \$710,000 worth of restoration projects to contractors through the area through the Jobs-in-the-Woods program.

The BLM has continued to provide amenities such as developed and dispersed recreational opportunities. Coos Bay District is distinctive in that it offers a mixture of forest, lakes, rivers, beaches, and ocean within its boundary. One can walk through an old-growth stand in the morning and tour a lighthouse or whale watch in the afternoon. Some 800,000 people recreated on lands managed by the Coos Bay District this past year. These visitors add to the tourism industry in the area.

The Coos Bay District Office employs about 167 full-time positions. Most of the personnel live in the communities of Coos Bay and North Bend with about 10 percent living in surrounding communities. This professional workforce has a significant impact on the community through payroll impacts and community participation. Only the healthcare industry, county government, public education, the Coquille Indian Tribe, the U.S. Coast Guard, and a handful of private companies employ more people in the area.

Table 14 displays the summary of Socio-Economic Activities and Allocations for the Coos Bay District.



Table 14. Coos Bay RMP, Summary of Socio-Economic Activities and Allocations					
Program Element	FY 99	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
District budget	\$14,288,000	\$16,185,300	\$15,218,800	\$14,415,000	\$14,220,000
Timber sale collections, O&C lands <sup>1</sup>	\$7,659,559	\$4,905,687	\$1,477,440	\$1,305,530	\$859,342
Timber sale collections, CBWR lands <sup>1</sup>	\$4,534,667	\$2,160,060	\$239,500	\$197,270	\$249,894
Timber sale collections, PD lands <sup>1</sup>	\$513,210	\$410,596	\$39,610	\$410,650	\$0
Payments to Coos and (Coos CBWR)	\$4,270,701	\$4,087,671	\$6,415,185	\$6,466,506	\$6,544,104
Curry Counties (Curry)	\$2,362,217	\$2,260,979	\$803,135	\$809,560	\$819,274
(O&C/CWBR) <sup>2</sup> (Total)	\$6,632,918	\$6,348,650	\$3,968,716	\$4,000,466	\$4,048,471
			\$11,187,036	\$11,276,532	\$11,411,849
Payments to Coos and (Coos)	\$4,438	\$7,127	\$10,335	\$10,900	\$12,295
Curry Counties (PILT) <sup>2</sup> (Curry)	\$52,592	\$62,305	\$90,337	\$95,219	\$107,412
(Total)	\$57,030	\$69,432	\$100,672	\$106,119	\$119,707
Value of forest development contracts	\$1,470,000	\$1,009,000	\$1,024,000	\$906,000	\$725,000
Value of timber sales, oral auctions (#)	\$105,795.70 (1 auction)	\$10,082	\$2,620,316 (7 auctions)	\$985,504 (2 auctions)	\$2,283,767 (7 auctions)
and negotiated sales (#)	\$89,894 (8 negotiated)	\$42,788 (9 negotiated)	\$154,474 (13 negotiated)	\$173,941 (10 negotiated)	\$173,941 (10 negotiated)
Jobs-in-the-Woods funds in contracts	\$728,000	\$935,300	\$926,100	\$737,900	\$902,038
Timber Sale/Recreation Pipeline Restoration Funds	\$1,435,000	\$1,244,500	\$1,196,700	\$889,000	\$856,000
Recreation Fee Demonstration Project Receipts	\$115,800	\$107,515	\$124,240	\$126,560	\$141,448
Challenge cost share project contributions	\$66,100	\$170,900	\$140,800	\$155,115	\$51,000
Value-in-kind or Volunteer Efforts	\$249,600	\$111,600	\$99,497	\$372,400	\$297,567
Value of land sales	\$10,050	\$45,100	0	0	0

<sup>1</sup> Funds collected as timber is harvested.

<sup>2</sup> To simplify reporting information and to avoid duplicating reporting, all payments to Coos and Curry counties have been reported by the Coos Bay District. Payments to Douglas and Lane counties have been reported by the Roseburg and Eugene Districts respectively.

Acronyms used in this table:

O&C = Oregon and California Railroad lands  
CWBR = Coos Bay Wagon Road lands

PD = Public Domain lands  
PILT = Payments In Lieu of Taxes



## Monetary Payments

The Bureau of Land Management contributes financially to the local economy in a variety of ways. One of these ways is through financial payments. They include: Payments in Lieu of Taxes, O&C Payments, and Coos Bay Wagon Road (CBWR) Payments. Payments of each type were made in FY 2003 as directed in current legislation. A description of each type of payment program is described below.

### Payments in Lieu of Taxes

"Payments in Lieu of Taxes" (or PILT) are Federal payments made annually to local governments that help offset losses in property taxes due to nontaxable Federal lands within their boundaries. The key law that implements the payments is Public Law 94-565, dated October 20, 1976. This law was rewritten and amended by Public Law 97-258 on September 13, 1982 and codified at Chapter 69, Title 31 of the United States Code. The Law recognizes that the inability of local governments to collect property taxes on Federally-owned land can create a financial impact.

PILT payments help local governments carry out such vital services as firefighting and police protection, construction of public schools and roads, and search-and-rescue operations. These payments are one of the ways that the Federal government can fulfill its role of being a good neighbor to local communities. This is an especially important role for the BLM, which manages more public land than any other Federal agency.

The specific amounts paid to the counties under each revenue sharing program in FY 2003 are displayed in Table 15.

Table 15. Payments of in Lieu of Taxes, O&C Payments, and Coos Bay Wagon Road (CBWR) Payments made in FY 2003

County	Payment	Total Acres
Baker County	\$326,877	1,020,753
Benton County	\$3,696	20,327
Clackamas County	\$94,845	521,598
Clatsop County	\$488	359
Columbia County	\$0	1
Coos County	\$12,295	67,619
Crook County	\$170,812	939,376
Curry County	\$107,412	590,707
Deschutes County	\$260,746	1,433,965
Douglas County	\$172,3170	947,655
Gilliam County	\$45,846	34,616



Grant County	\$319,996	1,751,354
Harney County	\$561,4670	4,539,024
Hood River County	\$37,417	205,744
Jackson County	\$83,730	460,472
Jefferson County	\$54,021	297,088
Josephine County	\$63,659	350,091
Klamath County	\$392,756	2,159,957
Lake County	\$561,467	3,703,244
Lane County	\$248,931	1,368,994
Lincoln County	\$33,297	183,116
Linn County	\$86,558	476,022
Malheur County	\$1,379,451	4,302,798
Marion County	\$37,151	204,312
Morrow County	\$27,268	149,960
Multnomah County	\$13,795	75,865
Polk County	\$00	435
Sherman County	\$72,071	53,672
Tillamook County	\$16,904	92,962
Umatilla County	\$119,409	418,790
Union County	\$389,426	624,346
Wallowa County	\$212,372	1,167,171
Wasco County	\$401805	221,016
Washington County	\$3,548	2,608
Wheeler County	\$55,365	302,646
Yamhill County	\$4,689	25,790
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,010,270</b>	<b>28,631,397</b>

### Payments to Counties

Payments are currently made to counties under "The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000." The purpose of the act is "To restore stability and predictability to the annual payments made to States and counties containing National Forest System lands and public domain lands managed by the BLM for use by the counties for the benefit of public schools, roads and other purposes." The Public domain lands managed by the BLM refers only to Oregon and California Revested Grantlands (O&C) and Coos Bay Wagon Road Lands



(CBWR), not public domain (PD) lands. The O&C lands consist of approximately 2.5 million acres of federally-owned forest lands in 18 western Oregon counties including approximately 74,500 acres of Coos Bay Wagon Road Lands in the Coos Bay and Roseburg BLM Districts.

Fiscal Year 2003 was the third year that payments were made to western Oregon counties under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-393). Counties made elections to receive the standard O&C and CBWR payment as calculated under the Act of August 28, 1937, or the Act of May 24, 1939, or the calculated full payment amount as determined under P.L. 106-393. All counties in the Coos Bay District elected to receive payments under the new legislation. Beginning in Fiscal Year 2001 and continuing through 2006 payments are to be made based on historic O&C and CBWR payments to the counties. Table 16 displays the statewide payments made under each Title of P.L. 106-393 as well as the grand total.

Title I payments are made to the eligible counties based on the three highest payments to each county between the years 1986 and 1999. These payments may be used by the counties in the manner as previous 50-percent and "safety net" payments.

Title II payments are reserved by the counties in special account in the Treasury of the United States for funding projects providing protection, restoration and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat, and other natural resource objectives as outlined in P.L. 106-393. BLM is directed to obligate these funds for projects selected by local Resource Advisory Committees and approved by the Secretary of Interior or her designee.

Title III payments are made to the counties for uses authorized in P.L. 106-393. These include: 1) search, rescue, and emergency services on Federal land, 2) community service work camps, 3) easement purchases, 4) forest-related educational opportunities, 5) fire prevention and county planning, and 6) community forestry.

County	Title I Paid to County	Title III Paid to County	Total Paid to County	Title II Retained By BLM	Grand Total
Benton	\$2,649,253.09	\$233,757.62	\$2,883,010.71	\$233,757.62	\$3,116,768.33
Clackamas	\$5,232,510.54	\$692,538.16	\$5,925,048.70	\$230,846.05	\$6,155,894.75
Columbia	\$1,942,157.06	\$229,631.51	\$2,171,788.57	\$113,102.09	\$2,284,890.66
Coos	\$5,562,488.68	\$785,292.52	\$6,347,781.20	\$196,323.13	\$6,544,104.33
Coos (CBWR)	\$696,383.35	\$15,975.85	\$712,359.20	\$106,915.32	\$819,274.52
Curry	\$3,441,200.62	\$364,362.42	\$3,805,563.04	\$242,908.28	\$4,048,471.32
Douglas	\$23,617,007.03	\$1,041,926.78	\$24,658,933.81	\$3,125,780.34	\$27,784,714.15
Douglas (CBWR)	\$125,890.06	\$5,553.97	\$131,444.03	\$16,661.92	\$148,105.95
Jackson	\$14,773,592.81	\$1,303,552.31	\$16,077,145.12	\$1,303,552.31	\$17,380,697.43
Josephine	\$11,388,959.88	\$1,004,908.22	\$12,393,868.10	\$1,004,908.22	\$13,398,776.32



Klamath	\$2,206,139.58	\$77,863.75	\$2,284,003.33	\$311,455.00	\$2,595,458.33
Lane	\$14,396,474.94	\$1,295,682.74	\$15,692,157.68	\$1,244,871.66	\$16,937,029.34
Lincoln	\$339,406.09	\$19,969.06	\$359,375.15	\$39,926.13	\$399,301.28
Linn	\$2,488,977.98	\$219,615.71	\$2,708,593.69	\$219,615.71	\$2,928,209.40
Marion	\$1,376,480.25	\$194,326.62	\$1,570,806.87	\$48,581.66	\$1,619,388.53
Multnomah	\$1,027,646.22	\$176,349.33	\$1,203,995.55	\$5,000.00	\$1,208,995.55
Polk	\$2,036,436.53	\$323,434.04	\$2,359,870.57	\$35,937.12	\$2,395,807.69
Tillamook	\$527,965.03	\$30,746.20	\$558,711.23	\$62,424.10	\$621,135.33
Washington	\$593,960.65	\$78,612.44	\$672,573.09	\$26,204.15	\$698,777.24
Yamhill	\$678,812.18	\$116,196.67	\$795,008.85	\$3,593.71	\$798,602.56
Total	\$95,101,742.57	\$8,210,295.92	\$103,312,038.49	\$8,572,364.52	\$111,884,403.01
Total				CBWR	\$967,380.47
Total				O&C	\$110,917,022.54
<b>Grand Total</b>					\$111,884,403.01

Table 17 displays the Title II payments for this District. Actual payments for 2003 were made October 31, 2003.

Table 17. Title II Coos Bay District RAC	
Coos	\$196,323.13
Coos (CBWR)	\$106,915.32
Curry	\$201,613.87
Douglas	\$625,156.07
Douglas (CBWR)	\$3,332.38
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,133,340.77</b>

### Management Actions/Direction

The direction of BLM district management is to support and assist the State of Oregon Economic Development Department's efforts to help rural, resource-based communities develop and implement alternative economic strategies as a partial substitute for declining timber-based economies.

Watershed restoration activities on public lands are providing a considerable number of contracting opportunities through several programs. The Jobs-in-the-Woods program, under the Northwest Forest Plan provided several contracts suitable for local contractors. (See Table 6 [page14] for details.) The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 also provided money for watershed enhancement projects in partnership with Coos, Curry, and Douglas Counties. (See discussion on the Title II payments to Counties on page 15.)



Several strategies and programs have been developed, through coordination with state and local government, to support local economies and enhance local communities. Below is a summary of several of these projects.

- **Watershed Associations:** Five local watershed associations on the south coast are operating on willing (private) landowners properties. These associations were formed to restore the health of coastal watersheds and provide jobs to local citizens and displaced timber workers. BLM provides technical assistance to these associations, as well as contributing funding through Jobs-In-The-Woods or Secure Rural Schools funds or in coordination with other government programs or private foundations.
- **Oregon Coastal Environment Awareness Network (OCEAN):** BLM continues to be involved with OCEAN. This past year BLM helped with teacher education programs and the design of interpretive exhibits to be placed in the learning network hub facility.
- **Coos County Tourism Development:** BLM continues to play a significant role in coordinating this community effort. In 2002 work continued on the Blue Ridge and Euphoria Ridge trail systems. BLM also assisted in the development of a network of water-trails in the area.

## **Environmental Justice**

Executive Order 12898 of February 11, 1994, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations" directs all federal agencies to "...make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing ...disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies and activities."

New projects with possible effects on minority populations and/or low-income populations will incorporate an analysis of Environmental Justice impacts to ensure any disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects are identified, and reduced to acceptable levels if possible.



## Forest Management

Table 18 displays the volume of timber offered by the District under the Resource Management Plan (RMP) and the Northwest Forest Plan (NFP) by fiscal year. The declared Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ) for the District is 27 million board feet (MMBF).

Table 18. Timber Volumes Offered FY 95 - 2003 <sup>1</sup>						
Land Use Allocation	Offered FY95-98 (MMBF)	Offered FY99 (MMBF)	Offered FY2000 (MMBF)	Offered FY2001 (MMBF)	Offered FY2002 (MMBF)	Offered FY2003 (MMBF)
Matrix (GFMA)	113.5	7.0	0	17.1	1.9	0.6 <sup>3</sup>
C/DB	0.1	0	0	1.0	0	0
Miscellaneous Volume <sup>2</sup>	7.0	1.3	1.3	0.6	0.7	0.9
Total ASQ Volume	120.6	8.3	1.3	18.4	2.6	1.5
Volumes from Reserves	12.0	1.3	0.5	6.6	13.3	19.6 <sup>4</sup>
Total Volume Offered	132.7	9.6	1.8	25.3	15.9	21.1

<sup>1</sup> FY95-02 data from Table 20, 2002 Annual Program Summary for the BLM – Coos Bay District.

<sup>2</sup> Includes ASQ volume from modifications and negotiated sales.

<sup>3</sup> Does not include Cherry Creek CT sale which was offered in FY02 and sold in FY03.

<sup>4</sup> Includes Shotgun DM sale which was offered but not sold in FY03 and includes non-ASQ volume from modifications and negotiated sales. Does not include Hatcher Creek DM sale which was offered in FY02 and sold in FY03.

Abbreviations used in this table:

GFMA General Forest Management Area  
 C/DB Connectivity/Diversity Blocks  
 MMBF Million Board Feet  
 MCF Million Cubic Feet  
 ASQ Allowable Sale Quantity





## FY 2003 Accomplishments

In FY 2003 the District offered and sold 7 timber sales with a total of approximately 28.9 MMBF (Table 19). Two of these timber sales (Cherry Creek CT and Hatcher Creek) were originally advertised in FY 2002 and did not sell. They were re-offered in FY 2002 and sold. One sale, Shotgun DM, was advertised but not sold in FY 2002.

One timber sale (Dora Ridge CT) included commercial thinning in the Matrix and density management in the Riparian Reserves while two timber sales (Oxbow 16 and Devils Club DM) involved density management in the Riparian Reserves. The remainder of the sales involved density management within the Late-Successional Reserves. The objectives of density management in the reserves include changing the growth characteristics and forest stand condition to benefit anadromous fish and species associated with late seral and old-growth habitia. In addition to the advertised sales, approximately 0.9 MMBF of timber was sold as miscellaneous ASQ volume including small negotiated sales, right-of-way timber, and contract modifications. This volume is included in Table 18, but not in Table 19. Table 20 shows acres and volume from timber sale sold in the Matrix for FY 2003.

The District declared ASQ projections made in the RMP are not intended as management action/direction, but rather underlying RMP assumptions. Projected levels of activities are the approximate level expected to support the Allowable Sale Quantity.

The recent decision by the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals concerning management of Port-Orford-cedar disease limited the District's ability to offer timber sales at the full ASQ level. The southwest Oregon BLM Districts, in cooperation with the Siskiyou National Forest, are in the process of addressing the issues raised in this lawsuit through an environmental impact statement.



Forwarder loading logs on Camas East Density Management Thinning



Table 19. FY2003 Advertised Timber Sales

Sale Name	Land Use Allocation <sup>1</sup>	Acres	Volume (MBF) <sup>2</sup>	Type of Harvest <sup>3</sup>	Comments
Oxbow 16	RR	12	91	DM	DM thinning of 12 acres in the RR.
Devils Club DM	RR	62	512	DM, RH	56 acres are DM thinning and 6 acres are RH (hardwood conversion); all in the RR
Burnt Out DM	LSR/RR	601	8,734	DM, RH, R/W	DM of 428 acres in the LSR outside the RR and 149 acres within the RR in the LSR, 3 acres are RH (hardwood conversion) and 21 acres are R/W; all in the LSR.
West Tioga DM	LSR	235	4,303	DM, R/W	233 acres are DM thinning and 2 acres are R/W; all in the LSR.
Hatcher Creek DM	LSR/RR	531	7,949	DM, RH, R/W	DM of 274 acres in the LSR outside of the RR and 248 acres within the RR in the LSR, 2 acres are RH (hardwood conversion) and 7 acres are R/W; all in the LSR. <b>Note:</b> This sale was offered and not sold in FY02, was offered and sold in FY03; it is included in the totals.
Cherry Creek CT	GFMA/RR	139	1,304	CT, DM, RH	55 acres are CT and 8 acres are RH (hardwood conversion) in the GFMA. 56 acres are DM thinning and 20 acres are RH (hardwood conversion) in the RR. <b>Note:</b> This sale was offered and not sold in FY02, was offered and sold in FY03; it is included in the totals.
Shotgun DM	LSR/RR	411	4,845	DM, RH, R/W	DM of 184 acres in the LSR outside of the RR and 189 acres within the RR in the LSR, 37 acres are RH (hardwood conversion) and 1 acre is R/W; all in the LSR. <b>Note:</b> This sale did not sell in FY03; it is not included in the totals.
Dora Ridge CT	GFMA,RR	138	966	CT, DM, R/W	91 acres are CT and 1 acre is R/W in the GFMA. 46 acres are DM in the RR.
Totals		1,718	23,859		

<sup>1</sup> GFMA is General Forest Management Area, LSR is Late-Successional Reserve, RR is Riparian Reserves

<sup>2</sup> Includes hardwood volumes.

<sup>3</sup> RH is Regeneration Harvest, CT is Commercial Thinning, DM is Density Management, R/W is Right-of-way



**Table 20. Actual Acres and Volume Sold from the Matrix in FY 2003**

Land Use Allocation	Regeneration Harvest		Commercial Thinning	
	Acres	Volume (MMBF)	Acres	Volume (MMBF) <sup>1</sup>
GFMA	8 <sup>2</sup>	0.001	147	1.0
C/DB	0	0	0	0
Totals	8	0.001	147	1.0

<sup>1</sup> Includes only Cherry Creek CT and Dora Ridge CT sales. All other sales sold were located in LSR or RR. Shotgun DM was offered but not sold and is located in LSR. This table does not include miscellaneous volume sold as modifications or negotiated sales.

<sup>2</sup> Cherry Creek CT included a hardwood conversion (Regeneration Harvest) unit which was mostly non-ASQ hardwood volume.

Table 21 displays a summary of volume sold under the RMP and NFP from the Harvest Land Base (the Matrix LUA), the Reserves, and the declared ASQ. The District ASQ was reduced from 32 MMBF to 27 MMBF as a result of the Third Year Evaluation.

**Table 21. Summary of Volume Sold <sup>1</sup>**

Sold ASQ/Non ASQ Volume (MMBF)	FY95-98	FY99-01	FY02	FY03	FY95-03 Total	FY95-03 Declared ASQ
ASQ Volume – Harvest Land Base	125.606	26.238	4.676	1.018	157.538	263 <sup>3</sup>
Non ASQ Volume – Reserves <sup>2</sup>	14.619	5.275	4.848	22.841	47.583	n/a
Totals	140.225	31.513	9.524	23.859	205.121	n/a

<sup>1</sup> Volume from advertised sales only. FY95-02 data from Table 23, 2002 Annual Program Summary for the BLM – Coos Bay District.

<sup>2</sup> Includes hardwood volumes.

<sup>3</sup> Declared Coos Bay FY95-98 ASQ (32 MMBF X 4) + FY99-03 ASQ (27 MMBF X 5) = 263 MMBF

Table 22 displays the summary of volume sold but not awarded by the District under the RMP and NFP.

**Table 22. Summary of Volume Sold but Unawarded <sup>1</sup>**

Sold Unawarded (as of 9/30/03) ASQ/Non ASQ Volume (MMBF)	FY95-98	FY99-01	FY02	FY03	FY95-02 Total
ASQ Volume – Harvest Land Base	20.813 <sup>2</sup>	13.709 <sup>3</sup>	0	0	34.522
Non ASQ Volume – Reserves (including hardwoods)	1.125 <sup>2</sup>	0.450 <sup>3</sup>	0.666 <sup>4</sup>	0	2.241
Totals	21.938	14.159	0.666	0	36.763

<sup>1</sup> Includes volume from advertised sales only.

<sup>2</sup> Includes the following sales: FY98 Remote Control, Jones 25, and Sagaberd West

<sup>3</sup> Includes the following sales: FY99 Cedar House and Sagaberd East, FY 2001 Jonesville Slugger, Little Big Sandy, and Dig Deal.

<sup>4</sup> Includes the following sale: FY 2002 Weaver Woad



Table 23 displays the ASQ volume and acres harvested from the Matrix LUA and from Key Watersheds under the RMP and NFP.

Table 23. Matrix ASQ Volume and Acres Sold by Allocations <sup>1</sup>						
ASQ Volume (MMBF) – (Harvest Land Base)	FY95-98	FY99-01	FY02	FY03	FY95-03 Total	Decadal Projection
Matrix (including negotiated sale, modifications, and right- of-ways)	131.7	29.5	5.4	1.9	168.5	321.1 <sup>2</sup>
AMA	0	0	0	0	0	0
ASQ Acres – (Harvest Land Base)						
Matrix (including negotiated sale, modifications, and right- of-ways)	4,455	1,516	391	177 <sup>5</sup>	6,539	11,939 <sup>3</sup>
AMA	0	0	0	0		0
Key Watershed ASQ Volume – (Harvest Land Base)	9.6	8.6	3.0	0.9	22.1	30 <sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> FY95-02 data from Table 25, 2002 Annual Program Summary for the BLM – Coos Bay District.

<sup>2</sup> Volume from Third Year Evaluation – Figure V12-7

<sup>3</sup> Acres from Third Year Evaluation – Figure V12-7

<sup>4</sup> Volume from Third Year Evaluation – Figure V12-8

<sup>5</sup> Includes a hardwood conversion (Regeneration Harvest) unit which contained only non-ASQ hardwood volume. Therefore, acres reported but not volume.

Table 24 displays the ASQ volume included in sales sold by harvest method under the RMP and NFP.

Table 24. ASQ Volume Included in Sales Sold by Harvest Type <sup>1</sup>						
ASQ Volume (MMBF) – (Harvest Land Base)	FY95-98	FY99-01	FY02	FY03	FY95-03 Total	Decadal Projection <sup>2</sup>
Regeneration Harvest	96.6	15.1	0.2	0	111.9	273.0
Commercial Thinning	28.1	11.1	4.5	1.0	44.7	48.0
Other (includes negotiated sale, modifications, and right-of-ways)	7.0	3.2	0.7	0.9	11.8	0
Totals	131.7	29.4	5.4	1.9	168.4	321.0

<sup>1</sup> FY95-02 data from Table 26, 2002 Annual Program Summary for the BLM – Coos Bay District.

<sup>2</sup> Values from Third Year Evaluation – Figure V12-7



Table 25 displays the acres (associated with the volume in Table 23) included in sales sold by harvest method under the RMP and NFP.

Table 25. ASQ Acres Included in Sales Sold by Harvest Type <sup>1</sup>						
ASQ Volume (MMBF) – (Harvest Land Base)	FY95-98	FY99-01	FY02	FY03	FY95-03 Total	Decadal Projection <sup>2</sup>
Regeneration Harvest	1,911	380	17	8 <sup>3</sup>	2,316	5,792
Commercial Thinning	2,357	1,118	325	147	3,947	6,147
Other (includes negotiated sale, modifications, and right-of-ways)	187	26	49	22	284	0
Totals	4,455	1,524	391	177	6,547	11,939

<sup>1</sup> FY95-02 data from Table 27, 2002 Annual Program Summary for the BLM – Coos Bay District.

Table has been updated with corrections.

<sup>2</sup> Values from Third Year Evaluation – Figure V12-4

<sup>3</sup> Includes a hardwood conversion (Regeneration Harvest) unit which was mostly non-ASQ hardwood volume.

Table 26 displays the acres of Reserve included in sales sold by harvest method under the RMP and NFP.

Table 26. Acres of Reserves Included in Sales Sold by Harvest Types <sup>1</sup>					
Reserve Acres	FY95-98	FY99-01	FY02	FY03	FY95-03 Total
Late-Successional Reserves	346	25	278	1,367	2,016
Riparian Reserves	840	396	90	196	1,522
Total	1,186	421	368	1,563	3,538

<sup>1</sup> Includes advertised sales only. FY95-02 data from Table 28, 2002 Annual Program Summary for the BLM – Coos Bay District.

Tables 27 and 28 display the acres by age class and harvest method included in sales sold under the RMP and NFP

Table 27. Regeneration Harvest Acres Sold by Age Class <sup>1</sup>						
Regeneration Harvest (Harvest Land Base)	FY95-98	FY99-01	FY02	FY03	FY95-03 Total	Decadal Projection <sup>2</sup>
0-70	160	197	17	8	382	735
80-140	1,318	69	0	0	1,387	3,474
150-190	245	5	0	0	250	683
200+	188	109	0	0	297	900
Totals	1,911	380	17	8	2,316	5,792

<sup>1</sup> Includes advertised sales only. FY95-02 data from Table 29, 2002 Annual Program Summary for the BLM – Coos Bay District.

<sup>2</sup> Values from Third Year Evaluation – Figure V12-4



Table 28. Commercial Thinning & Other Harvest Acres Sold by Age Class <sup>1</sup>						
Commercial Thinning & Other (Harvest Land Base)	FY95-98	FY99-01	FY02	FY03	FY95-03 Total	Decadal Projection <sup>2</sup>
0-70	2,342	1,118	325	147	3,932	6,147
80-140	15	0	0	0	15	0
150-190	0	0	0	0	0	0
200+	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	2,357	1,118	325	147	3,947	6,147

<sup>1</sup> Includes advertised sales only. FY95-02 data from Table 30, 2002 Annual Program Summary for the BLM – Coos Bay District.

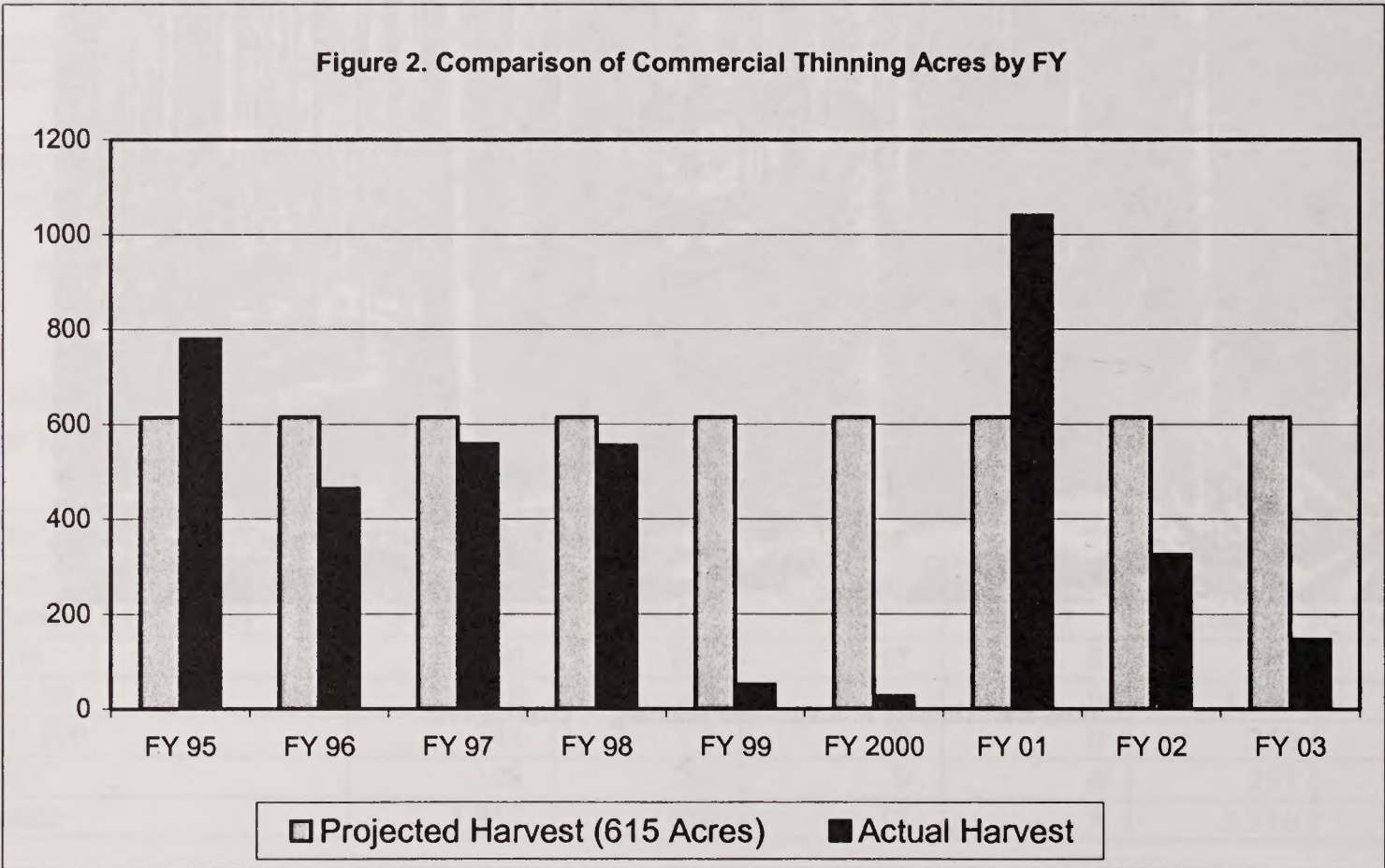
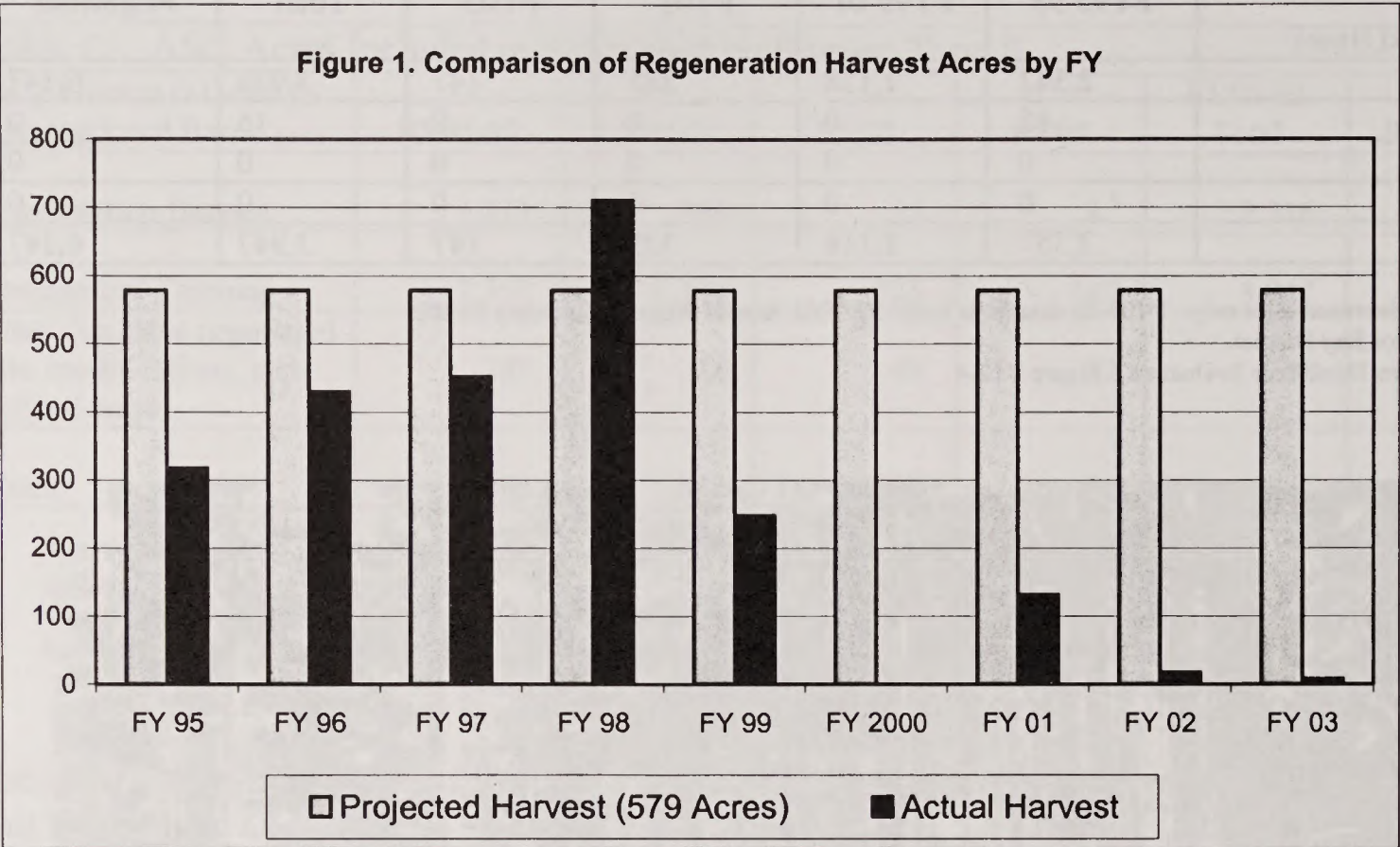
<sup>2</sup> Values from Third Year Evaluation – Figure V12-4



Camas East Density Management thinning - post harvest

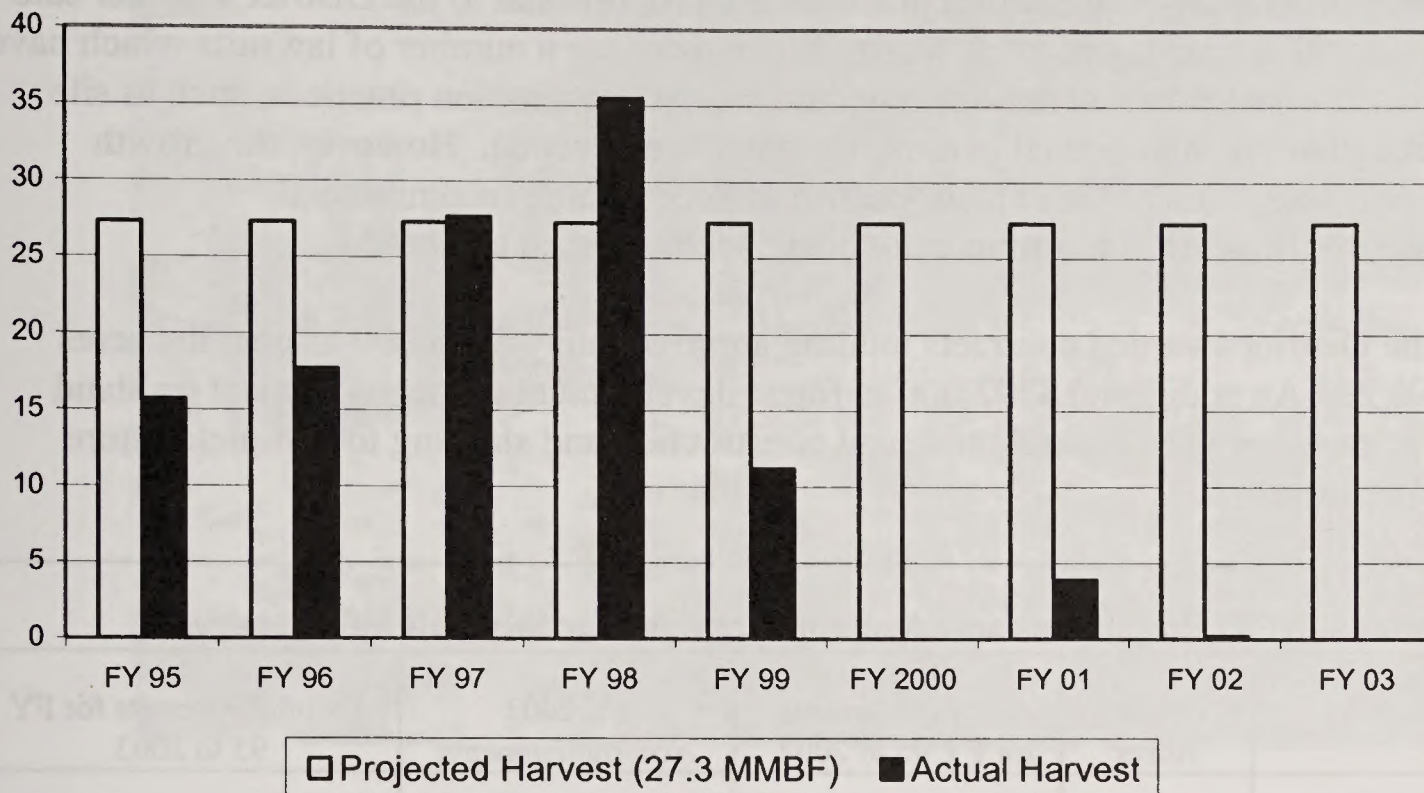


Figures 1 thru 4 display comparisons of the projected and actual acres and volume sold from the Matrix by Fiscal Year (FY).

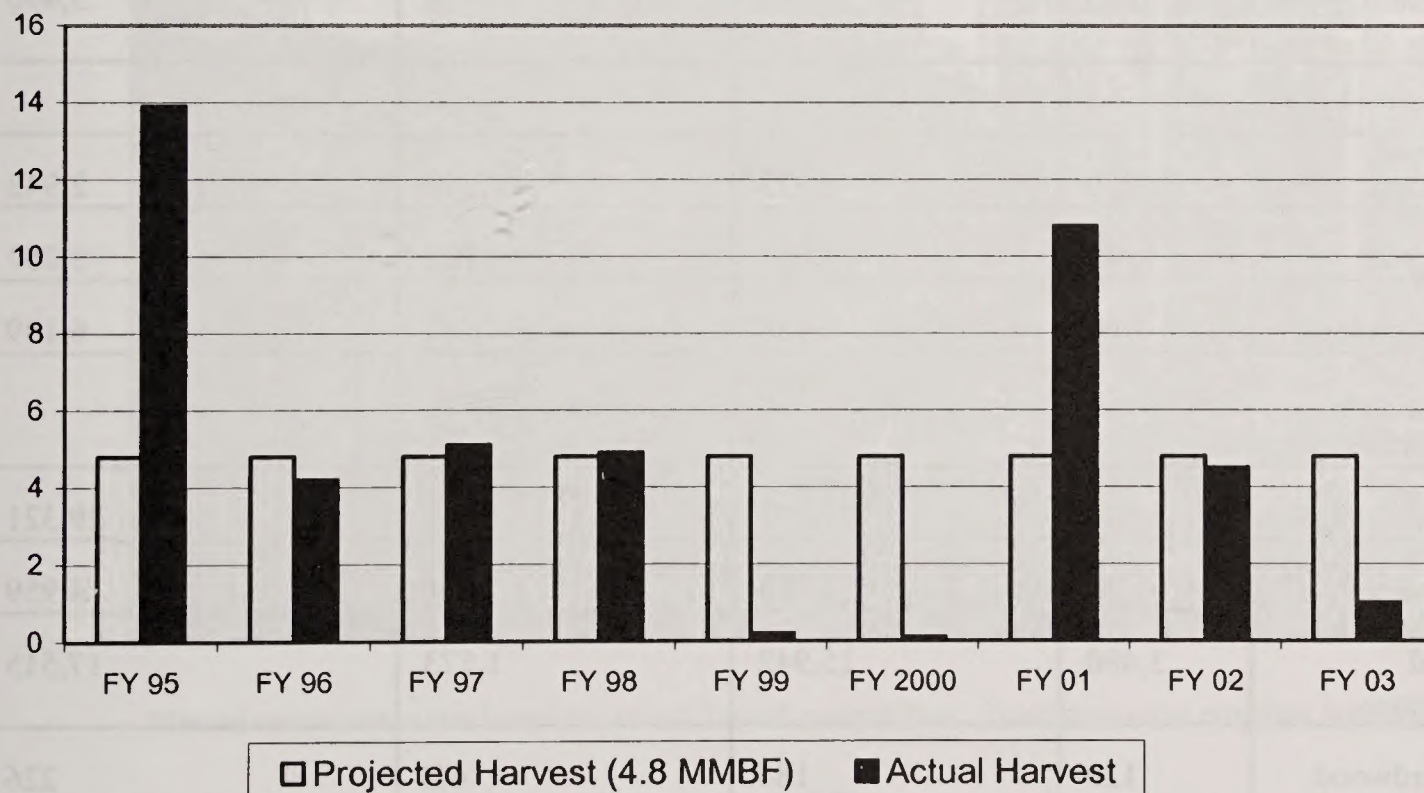




**Figure 3. Comparison of Regeneration Harvest Volume by FY**



**Figure 4. Comparison of Commercial Thinning Volume by FY**





## Silvicultural Practices

The implementation of many silvicultural practices are proportional to the District's timber sale harvest schedule with a time lag of a few years. Since there are a number of lawsuits which have held up the District's regeneration harvest schedule, many reforestation practices, such as site preparation, tree planting, and animal control, have not been needed. However, the growth enhancement practices, such as stand maintenance of vegetation, precommercial thinning/release, fertilization, and pruning are being accomplished as needed.

In FY 2003, the District awarded contracts totaling approximately \$725,000 to treat the acres shown in Table 29. An additional \$292,000 in forest development money was spent on stand exam contracts, noxious weed control, and road construction and slashing to complete future hardwood conversions.

Table 29. Annual ROD Projections and Accomplishments for Silvicultural Practices				
Practice	ROD Acres	Accomplishments for FY 95 to 2002	FY 2003 Accomplishments	Accomplishments for FY 95 to 2003
Site Preparation				
Prescribed Fire	760	1,990	30	2,020
Other	100	1,447	23	1,470
Total for Site Preparation	860	3,437	53	3,490
Planting				
Normal Stock	220	2,923	19	2,942
Genetic Stock	540	3,035	222	3,257
Total for planting	760	5,958	241	6,199
Stand Maintenance/Protection				
Vegetation Control	5,610	27,652	1,669	29,321
Animal Control	790	4,718	241	4,959
Precommercial Thinning/Release	3,480	15,942	1,573	17,515
Brushfield/Hardwood Conversion	120	184	42 <sup>1</sup>	226
Fertilization	1,200	22,740	0	22,740
Pruning	870	3,688	1,129	4,817

<sup>1</sup> Hardwood conversion units sold with FY 2003 timber sales within Matrix, LSR, and Riparian Reserves





Manual maintenance conducted to control Tanoak competition (note green-tree retention within unit)

### **Young Stand Silviculture in Late Successional Reserves**

Silvicultural practices in the Late-Successional Reserves (LSR) have been proceeding since FY 1995, as shown in Table 30. This demonstrates that the implementation targets of the "South Coast-North Klamath Late-Successional Reserve Assessment" (May, 1998) are being met on the District. All of the silvicultural treatments being reported are in stands less than 20-years old.



Establishment and maintenance of these young timber stands is vital to meeting later stand development targets for old-growth. The key components that are being grown are dominant, fast growing, overstory trees; a varied conifer species mix; and a few hardwood trees.

As a result of the Rescissions Act of 1995, there was timber harvest and subsequent tree planting in the LSR that was not originally part of the Northwest Forest Plan. With this workload completed, the near-term silvicultural treatments in young timber stands will primarily be stand maintenance and pre-commercial thinning/release. As an alternative pathway for developing late-successional characteristics, 486 acres of moderate density (18' x 18') pre-commercial thinning were completed in FY 2003. As the pre-commercial thinning/release workload is finished in the next few years, the primary silvicultural treatment in the LSRs will turn to density management of stands 25 to 80 years old.

Table 30. Silvicultural Practices in Late-Successional Reserves			
Practice	Accomplishments for FY 95 to 2002 (acres)	FY 2003 Accomplishments (acres)	Total FY 95 to 2003
Site Preparation			
Prescribed Fire	137	0	137
Other	131	0	131
Total for Site Preparation	268	0	268
Planting			
Normal Stock	756	0	756
Genetic Stock	368	0	368
Total for planting	1,124	0	1,124
Stand Maintenance/Protection			
Vegetation Control	6,763	254	7,017
Animal Control	637	0	637
Precommercial Thinning/Release	6,878	486	7,364
Brushfield/Hardwood Conversion	0	25 <sup>1</sup>	62
Fertilization	141	0	141
Pruning	6	0	6

<sup>1</sup> Hardwood conversion units sold with FY 2003 timber sales



## Special Forest Products

In addition to the advertised timber sales described above, the District sold a variety of Special Forest Products as shown in Table 31. The ROD does not have specific commitments for the sale of Special Forest Products. The sale of Special Forest Products follows the guidelines contained in the Oregon/Washington Special Forest Products Procedure Handbook.

Table 31. Summary of Special Forest/Natural Product Actions and Accomplishments				
RMP Authorized product sales	Unit of measure	Total FY 95-2002	FY 2003	Total FY 95-2003
Boughs, coniferous	Pounds	121,295	14,400	135,695
	contracts <sup>1</sup>	134	5	139
	value (\$)	1,964	288	2,252
Burls and miscellaneous	Pounds	1,000	0	1,000
	contracts <sup>1</sup>	1		1
	value (\$)	150		150
Christmas trees	Number	1,539	181	1,710
	contracts <sup>1</sup>	1,415	181	1,586
	value (\$)	1,287	905	2,192
Edibles and medicinals	Pounds	6,179	500	6,679
	contracts <sup>1</sup>	13	1	14
	value (\$)	250	25	275
Feed & Forage	Tons	0	0	0
Floral & greenery	Pounds	718,903	159,413	878,316
	contracts <sup>1</sup>	3,499	523	4,022
	value (\$)	47,183	6,113	53,296
Moss/ bryophytes	Pounds	5,600	0	5,600
	contracts <sup>1</sup>	9		9
	value (\$)	168		168
Mushrooms/ fungi	Pounds	181,070	35,127	216,197
	contracts <sup>1</sup>	2,318	139	2,457
	value	37,577	3,513	41,090
Ornamentals	Number	2,081	0	2,081
	contracts <sup>1</sup>	3		3
	value (\$)	29		29
Seed and seed cones	Bushels	1,744	0	1,744
	contracts <sup>1</sup>	37		37
	value (\$)	775		775
Transplants	Number	1,586	316	1,902
	contracts <sup>1</sup>	23	4	27
	value (\$)	301	37	338
Wood products/ firewood <sup>2</sup>	Cubic feet	1,413,359	11,856	1,425,215
	contracts <sup>1</sup>	1,392	51	1,443
	value (\$)	247,508	4,034	251,542
<b>TOTALS</b>	contracts <sup>1</sup>	8,812	904	9,716
	value (\$)	341,992	17,039	359,031

<sup>1</sup> Contract numbers represent individual sale (or free use) actions. Value is in dollars per year received.

<sup>2</sup> To avoid double counting, this line does not include products converted into and sold as either board or cubic feet and reported elsewhere.



## Noxious Weeds

In FY 2003, Coos Bay District chemically treated 840 acres and manually treated 680 acres of Scotch and French broom along 175 miles of road. Community Service Work crews manually removed noxious weeds from the Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area and the Coquille Watershed Association Pilot Crew removed noxious weeds in the New River and East Fork of the Coquille River drainages. The Coos Bay District is concentrating its control effort on the transportation system, the principal source of noxious weed spread on the Southern Oregon Coastal area.

In 1997 an inventory involving 13,000 acres was performed identifying 2,131 miles of road side occurrence. An additional 10,000 acres were inventoried in FY 99 and 2000 involving the southern end of the District. In 2001, 2002, and 2003 comprehensive inventories were done in the Umpqua and Coquille 4<sup>th</sup> field watersheds for contract services. Control efforts were based on these inventories. Biological controls were placed on purple loosestrife populations on BLM lands. This program is expected to expand considerably as biological controls are developed for the broom species. Biological control of the tansy ragwort populations continues to be maintaining the existing populations and is expected to be the sole treatment for these species. Additionally, in cooperation with the Coos Watershed Association, an inventory was completed during 2001 and 2002 with follow up in 2003 for purple loosestrife for the Coos sub-basin. This information was the basis for biological control applications in the Coos and Umpqua River drainages, in cooperation with USDA Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and Cornell University in FY 2002.

In FY 2004 the Coos Bay District will be using an organic hot foam weed control tool in environmentally sensitive areas in order to determine its effectiveness for noxious weed control.



Treatment of noxious weeds (Scotch/French Broom) along BLM roads



## Fire/Burning

All fuels treatment activities were accomplished meeting the Department of Interior 9214 Manual (Prescribed Fire Management Policy as revised in September 2003) and in accordance with the Oregon Smoke Management and Visibility Protection Plans. In FY 2003, prescribed fire and fuels management activities occurred on 53 acres. Fuels consumption varied due to factors such as time of year, aspect, types and condition of fuels, ignition source and fuels treatment method. No intrusions into designated areas occurred as a result of fuels treatment projects on the District. Prescribed burning prescriptions target spring-like burn conditions when large fuel, duff and litter consumption, and smoldering is reduced by wetter conditions and rapid mop-up. Fuels treatment activities are implemented to improve seedling plantability and survival, reduce brush competition, reduce activity fuel loading levels, protect resource values, re-establish native vegetation and reduce natural fuels loads to lower the probability of catastrophic fire. Proposed management activities are analyzed during the interdisciplinary review process and alternative fuels treatment methods are utilized where appropriate.

The Hazardous Fuels Reduction program was introduced in FY 2000 and has no ROD accomplishments associated with it. The (2823 and 2824) programs came about as a result of the catastrophic 2000 fire season and addresses fuel reduction activities in:

- Areas where actions will mitigate threats to the safety of the public and our employees in both wildland urban interface (2824) and non-interface areas (2823).
- Areas to protect, enhance, restore and/or maintain plant communities and habitats that are critical for endangered, threatened, or sensitive plant and animal species.
- Areas that will reduce risks and damage from wildfire.

In 2003 the District accomplished 1,725 acres in the 2823 and 2824 programs, as detailed in Table 32. The primary treatment methods were manual and machine piling with 40 acres being broadcast burned. The definition of wildland urban interface (WUI) in the National Fire Plan is much broader than that of the District's RMP; page 44 and Map 6 in the ROD and RMP. The 428 acres treated within the WUI in FY03 were funded by and meet the National Fire Plan definition and the intent of Rural Interface Area protection in the RMP.

In FY 2003, the District had six human caused fires and 3 naturally caused wildfires totaling 16 acres.

In FY 2003, the District dispatched 102 people off district and out of state to wildfire assignments for a total of 1,534 workdays.



Table 32. Annual Fuels Management Accomplishments for Hazardous Fuels Reduction				
Practice	ROD Acres	Accomplishments for FY 00 thru 02	FY 2003 Accomplishments	Accomplishments for FY 2000 to 2003
Site Preparation (2823)				
Prescribed Fire	N/A	32	40	72
Other	N/A	279	1257	1536
Wildland Urban Interface (2824)				
Prescribed Fire	N/A	0	0	0
Other	N/A	0	428	428
Total for Hazardous Fuels Reduction		311	1725	2036



Prescribed fire being used as a management tool at New River ACEC for restoration of Snowy Plover habitat.





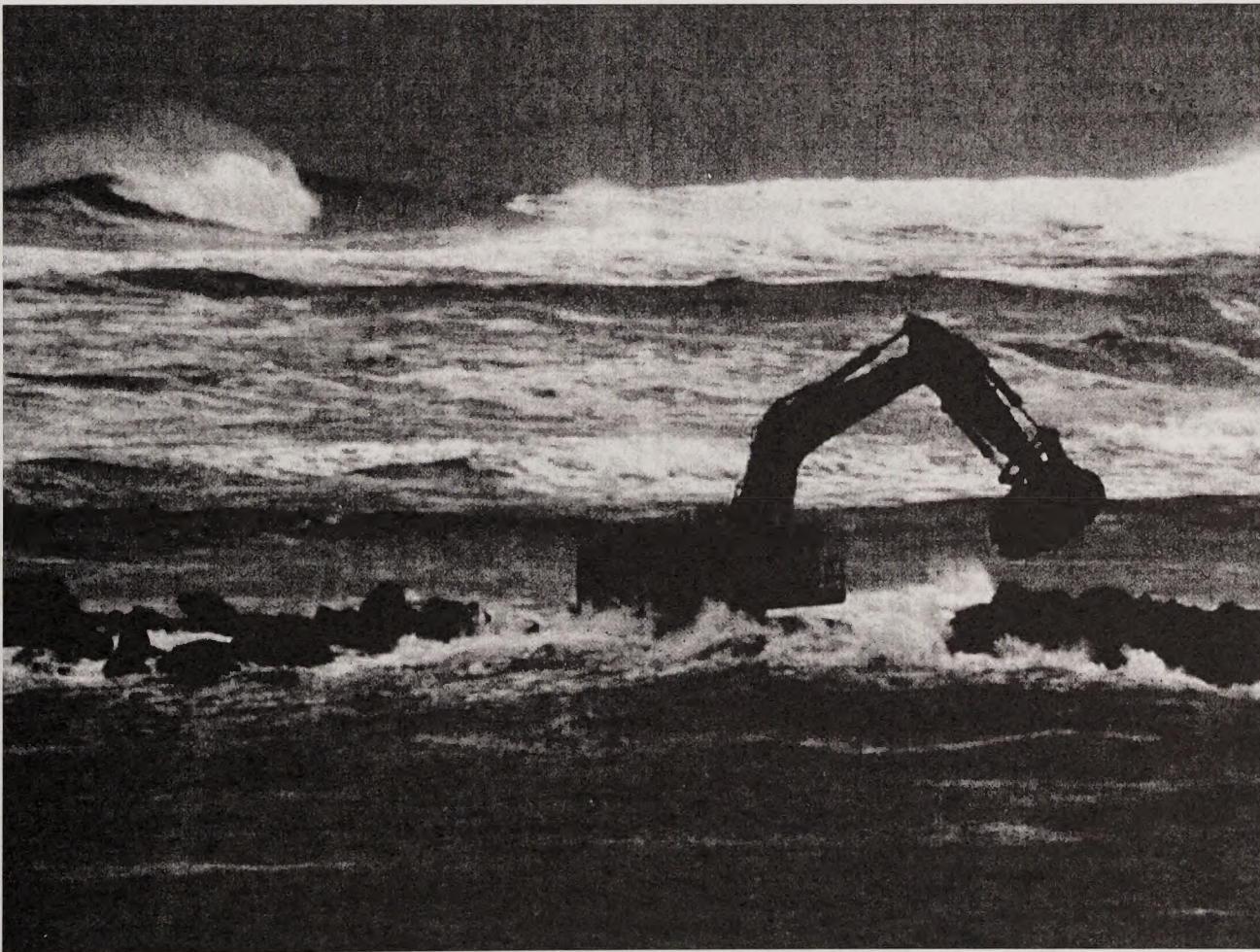
## Access and Right-of-Way

Due to the intermingled nature of the public and private lands within the District, each party must cross the lands of the other to access their lands and resources, such as timber. On the majority of the District this has been accomplished through Reciprocal Right-of-Way Agreements with adjacent land owners. The individual agreements and associated permits are subject to the regulations that were in effect when the agreements were executed or assigned. Additional rights-of-way have been granted for the construction of driveways, utility lines, water pipelines, legal ingress and egress, construction and use of communication sites, etc.

In FY 2003, the following actions were accomplished:

- 11 temporary permits were issued for timber hauling over existing roads.
- 7 existing permits were amended to permit use of an existing road.
- 1 existing permit was amended to permit new construction across BLM land.
- 1 new reciprocal Right-of-Way Agreement was consummated.
- 34 supplements to establish fees for use of existing roads were executed.
- 1 Agreement was partially assigned to 2 new landowners.

In FY 2004 we anticipate requests for similar type of actions.



Access through BLM lands allows adjacent landowners to manage their lands - such as the Corps of Engineers conducting emergency repair to the North Jetty of Coos Bay



## Transportation/Roads

During FY 2003 very few Transportation Management Objectives were established for any roads. The process will continue through 2004 as required by resource objectives. Transportation Management Objectives have been used to support Watershed Analysis and to determine candidate roads for the decommissioning process. A summary of road construction, repair and decommissioning is as follows:

- There were no miles of new permanent road constructed by federal action.
- 1.7 miles of temporary road were constructed and subsequently decommissioned under the same timber sale.
- 7.19 miles of road were decommissioned on BLM land. (0.8 miles of this decommissioning work was done by a private timber company)
- There were 1.1 miles of road built on public lands by private action.
- 1.2 miles of road improved on public lands by private action.
- 0 miles of temporary road were built on public lands by private action.

During 2003 the updating of the Interim Ground Transportation Network and Road Information Database (GTRN) continued. This project will continue into 2004 and beyond.

## Energy and Minerals

There are 33 mining claims on the Coos Bay District. In FY 2003 no mining notices were received, no Plan of Operations were submitted, no compliance inspections performed, and no notices of non-compliance issued. There were two mineral sales conducted, both from Baker Quarry. Appropriate compliance inspections were completed. One mine claim location/boundary concern was resolved.

The District also implemented the issuance of Free Use Permits to the BLM for use of mineral materials needed for on-district projects. Of the four Free Use Permits issued, the largest was for 30,000 cubic yards processed at Elk Wallow Quarry for timber roads. Appropriate compliance inspections have been conducted.

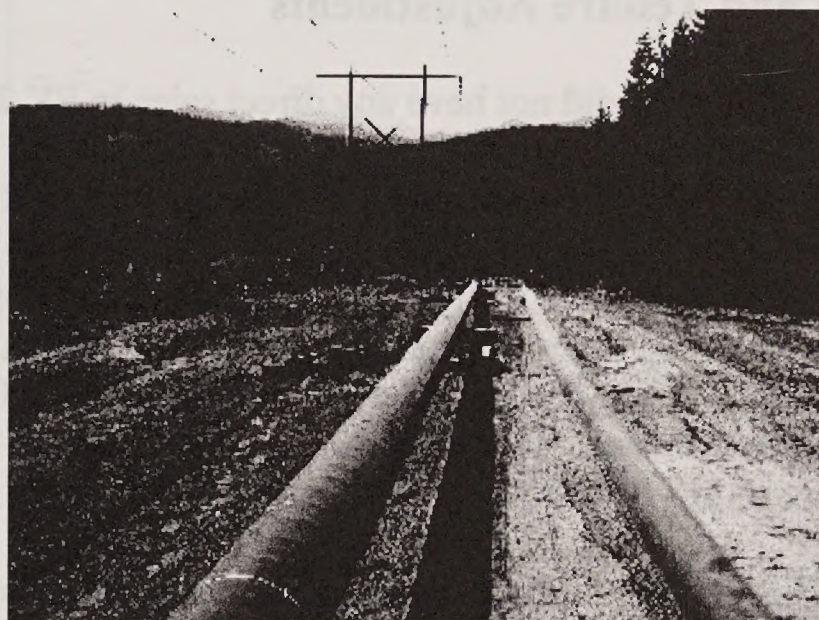
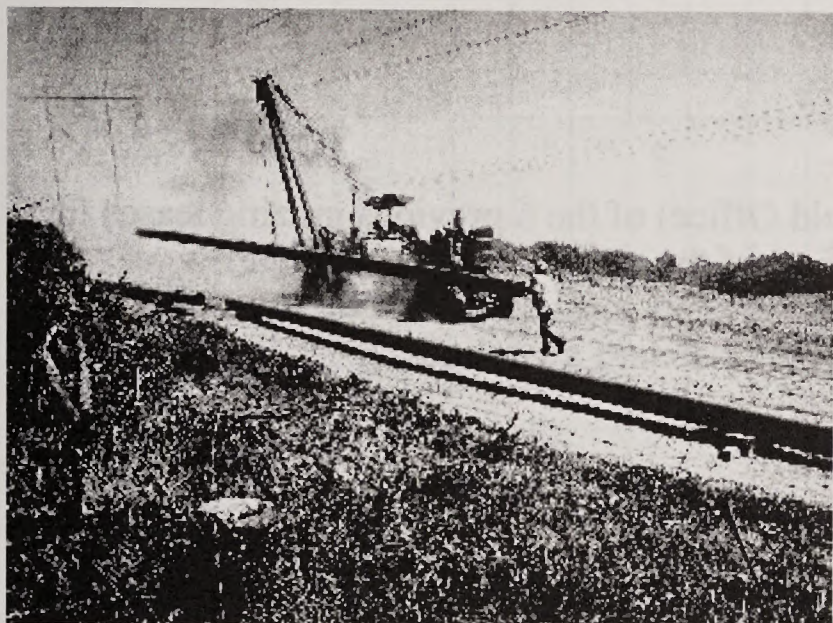


Packing drill holes with explosives at Elk Wallow Quarry before the 'shot'



The District has received numerous inquiries on Recreational Mining. Investigation and pursuit of remediation has been initiated in conjunction with the District Hazmat program concerning mercury exposure at the Sixes River Recreation site. Abandoned Mine Land status for the site is being investigated.

The District continues to analyze its potential for Coal Bed Methane leases, including evaluation and preparing for maintenance of the RMP to include Coal Bed Methane leases. The District completed geologic and engineering geology reviews, comments and guidance on environmental analysis completed by outside District personnel, including the Natural Gas Pipeline Environmental Impact Statement.



A quarry inventory continues to document all quarries, active and abandoned, located within the District. This inventory will categorize quarry status, rock type and preliminary interpretation of rock quality.

One mineral potential report has been assigned for the North Spit Land Exchange. This report is in progress. Mineral reviews have been conducted for the Hunter's Creek proposed exchanges.

Two presentations were given at Bullards State Park regarding local geology and geomorphology functions. A third presentation was given at Loon Lake Campground. A fourth was conducted at Millicoma School. Numerous public inquiries were addressed regarding area geology. Mineral Materials training was completed as well as attendance to the annual OSO Minerals meeting. Mineral and energy review was conducted for the District RMP evaluations.



Engineering geology investigations are conducted to support District Engineering Staff in design. However, the District Geologist conducted numerous geologic investigations in support of other programs, within District and outside of District and the Bureau such as: assisting the Medford District in Abandoned Mine Land investigation of the Almeda Mine; assisting Coos County with landslide and foundation analysis; and consulting with FAA in regards to tower protection and placement. The District Geologist continues to representing BLM as the agency contact with the Federal Applied Geomorphology Consortium and served on a Oregon State Office Detail to complete the Oregon/Washington mineral price inventory/appraisal.

No Statements of Adverse Energy Impact (SAEI) were completed for this year. All projects receive a review to determine if an SAEI is required.

## **Range Resources**

In FY 2003 the District maintained 4 (Umpqua Field Office) of the 6 previous grazing leases for a total of 23 AUM's. Two (Myrtlewood Field Office) of the six leases were voluntarily relinquished in favor of cooperative management agreements in support of riparian restoration. All leases are in compliance with current BLM grazing standard guidelines.

## **Land Tenure Adjustments**

The District did not have any direct sales in FY 2003.

In FY 2003 the District did not acquire any land by purchase.

In FY 2003 the US Air Force relinquished approximately 43 acres of lands under their jurisdiction at Coos Head, in Coos County. As a result, the lands were turned over to GSA for disposal and not returned to the public domain. The relinquishment did not affect the total district acres because lands withdrawn to other agencies are not included in district acreage unless they are returned to the public domain.

The Oregon Public Lands Transfer and Protection Act of 1998, PL 105-321, established a policy of "No Net Loss" of O&C and Coos Bay Wagon Road (CBWR) lands in western Oregon. The Act requires that, *...when selling, purchasing, or exchanging land, BLM may neither 1) reduce the total acres of O&C or CBWR lands nor 2) reduce the number of acres of O&C or CBWR lands that are available for timber harvest below what existed on October 30, 1998....* The redesignation of lands associated with establishment of the Coquille Forest noted above is not included in the Act. Table 33 displays the results for the first four years of the No Net Loss policy on the District.



Table 33. No Net Loss Report for FY 98 to 2003

Type of Action (sale, purchase, exchange)	Name/Serial Number	Acquired Acres			Disposed Acres		
		Land Status			Land Status		
		O&C	CBWR	PD	O&C	CBWR	PD
Purchase	OR-50404 <sup>1</sup>			71			0
Sale	OR-53620 <sup>2</sup>						
Sale	OR-53838 <sup>3</sup>						2
Sale	OR-53839 <sup>4</sup>					1	0
Title Resolution	OR-56084 <sup>5</sup>					2	0
Purchase	OR-55309 <sup>6</sup>			44		9	183
Purchase	OR-55740 <sup>7</sup>			2			0
Relinquishment	OR-19228 <sup>8</sup>			313			0

<sup>1</sup> Russell Purchase of land adjacent to New River ACEC (Lost Lake) February 1998

<sup>2</sup> Bally Bandon direct sale (T. 27S., R. 14W., Section 29 Lot 3) April 1999

<sup>3</sup> Enos Ralph direct sale (T. 27S., R. 12 W. Section 13) November 1999

<sup>4</sup> Leslie Crum direct sale (T. 27 S, R. 11 W., Section 5) April 2000

<sup>5</sup> Coos County Title Resolution (Coos Bay Wagon Road) September 2000

<sup>6</sup> Russat Enterprises purchase of land in the Coos Bay Shorelands ACEC May 2001

<sup>7</sup> William Warner purchase of land in the Dean Creek EVA February 2002

<sup>8</sup> COE relinquishment of lands on the North Spit of Coos Bay June 2002



## **Hazardous Materials Management and Resource Protection**

In FY 2003 the Coos Bay District Hazardous Materials Coordinator participated in a number of actions, including investigations, emergency responses, removals, clean-ups, and coordination, as summarized below:

- Eight investigations of potential hazardous waste sites.
- Two time-critical response and removal actions involving illegal dumping on public lands.
- Two time-critical responses to vehicle fires at BLM recreation sites (one for an adjoining BLM district under mutual aid pact).
- Provided federal agency technical assistance on a CERCLA response to a state highway transportation incident involving the release of 3,000 gallons of petroleum wastes.
- One non-emergency removal action involving illegal dumping on public lands.
- Monitoring continued on three past hazardous waste removal sites.
- Conducted removal and disposal actions on several RCRA hazardous waste streams generated by BLM activities.
- Coordinated and conducted corrective actions identified in the Phase 2 Compliance Assessment - Safety, Health and the Environment (CASHE). Major efforts included: replacement of bulk fuel storage and dispensing systems at road maintenance facilities; sampling investigation of former underground storage tank (UST) site; development of paint waste recovery & recycling system.
- Provided technical guidance and interagency coordination, and developed out-year Special Clean-up Fund (SCF) funding package for investigation of potential mercury contamination from Abandoned Mine Land sites on Sixes River.

## **Cadastral Survey**

The cadastral survey crews perform an essential function in the accomplishment of resource management objectives.

In addition to the accomplishments noted in Table 34, the cadastral survey crew completed the following tasks:

- Reviewed and signed three sets of field notes for surveyed completed in past years.
- Surveyed one ERFO site for District Engineers.
- Prepared two legal descriptions for District Realty Specialists to facilitate land exchanges/acquisitions and reviewed three legal descriptions.
- Answered surveying questions and information research for approximately 50 individuals from the general public and private land surveyors.



Table 34. Coos Bay District Cadastral Survey Activity						
	FY 98	FY 99	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
Survey groups or projects completed	5	8	4	3	6	7
Miles of survey line run	34	40	41	27	38	47
Monuments set	84	42	31	56	32	25
Survey notes and plats submitted to the Oregon State Office for final review	4	4	7	3	5	4

## Law Enforcement

In FY 2003 the Coos Bay District Law Enforcement Program continued to function with two BLM Rangers and three Law Enforcement Agreements (LEAs). This included full-year agreements with Coos and Curry Counties, and a partial-year agreement with Douglas County (specifically for the Loon Lake Recreation Area in the summer months).

Although there were no nationally newsworthy incidents the District experienced a busy enforcement year.

Law enforcement actions on public lands conducted by BLM Rangers and co-operating County Sheriff Deputies involved conducting investigations on 511 cases including:

- 16 timber, fuelwood and forest products thefts,
- 2 violations of fire prevention orders,
- 2 intimidation of a BLM employee,
- 20 cases of vandalism,
- 11 liquor law violations,
- 4 Haz-Mat cases,
- 22 littering/dumping cases,
- 19 assists to other enforcement agencies,
- 2 arrest warrant executions,
- 1 search and rescue, and
- 1 felony assault on a member of the public.
- Law enforcement actions taken included 146 federal and state citations and 4 arrests.

Additionally, in the wake of the September 11, 2001 incidents, the law enforcement staff conducted 165 security checks of critical infrastructures.



## **Geographic Information System**

The Geographic Information System (GIS) exists within the BLM to provide support to natural resource managers and staff. As such, GIS is not a program but rather a support group consisting of people, computers and special software used to create, store, retrieve, analyze, report, and map natural resource information. This information is spatially registered to the ground, so that GIS may be utilized to accurately display geographic features such as land ownership patterns, roads, streams, and a host of other data "layers" or "themes". The BLM utilizes a family of GIS software programs from Environmental Systems Research Institute, ESRI Inc, called ArcGIS. The GIS organization in OR/WA is redesigning much of its data to comply with the requirements of ArcGIS.

In 2003, Coos Bay District continued to collect and update natural resource data, including updates to the Ground Transportation (GTRN) theme. GTRN is now linked to the Facilities Inventory Maintenance Management System (FIMMS). The District has been coordinating with Oregon State Office (OSO) to assure accuracy during the linking between the FIMMS and GTRN databases.

The District has been working with OSO to prepare for a linking of the Micro\*Storms database with the Forest Operations Inventory (FOI) theme. In addition, FOI has been updated to include recent data from stand examinations in both Resource Areas.

Spatial edits to the Land Line Inventory (LLI) theme were accomplished by OSO, to align the theme with BLM's Geographic Coordinate Data Base (GCDB). District GIS staff are working with OSO to assure accuracy of land status, jurisdiction and other LLI attribute information.

The District completed the interagency update of a suite of Land Use Allocation (LUA) related themes, including LUA, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), recreation management areas (REC), key watersheds, occupied Marbled murrelet sites (OMMS), and known owl activity centers (KOAC). GIS staff also provided support to the five-year review of Marbled Murrelet Habitat.

District GIS staff provided support to the Umpqua Land Exchange Project (ULEP), and provided an annual update to the Interagency Restoration Database (IRDA) project.

The District has been cooperating with the OSO to adopt a uniform approach to global positioning system (GPS) hardware and software.

The District GIS organization provided support to various interdisciplinary teams, including the Port-Orford-cedar EIS, the New River ACEC Management Plan, watershed analyses, environmental assessments, water quality restoration plans, and other initiatives. In addition, GIS responded to requests for spatial data from various members of the public, such as watershed associations.



# **National Environmental Policy Act Analysis and Documentation**

## **NEPA documentation**

The review of environmental effects for a proposed management action can be documented in several ways; i.e., categorical exclusion review (CX), administrative determination (DNA), environmental assessment (EA), or environmental impact statement (EIS).

A CX is used when a new proposal fits a category that has been determined to not individually or cumulatively cause significant environmental effects and is exempt from requirements to prepare an environmental analysis. Categories are listed in Department of Interior and BLM manuals.

An administrative determination is a determination by BLM that NEPA documentation previously prepared fully covers a proposed action and no additional analysis is needed. This procedure is used in conjunction with a Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and NEPA Adequacy (DNA) form. If an action is fully in conformance with actions specifically described in the RMP and analyzed in a subsequent NEPA document, a plan conformance and NEPA adequacy determination may be made and no additional analysis is needed.

An EA is prepared to assess the effects of actions that are not exempt from NEPA, are not categorically excluded, and are not covered by an existing environmental document. An EA is prepared to determine if a proposed action or alternative will significantly affect the quality of the human environment and therefore, will require the preparation of an EIS. If the action is determined to not significantly affect the quality of the human environment, this conclusion is documented in a "Finding Of No Significant Impact."

Major proposals that will significantly affect the environment, and that have not been previously analyzed, require that an EIS be prepared.

## **Coos Bay District Environmental Documentation, Fiscal Year 2003**

During FY 2003, the Coos Bay District completed 15 environmental assessments, 36 categorical exclusions, and 17 administrative determinations. These environmental documents vary in complexity, detail, and length depending on the project involved.

## **Protest and Appeals**

Many Coos Bay District timber sale environmental assessment decision records have been protested and appealed since the expiration of the Rescission Act in December of 1996. Protest and appeal issues have challenged compliance with the RMP ROD, compliance with NEPA, analysis, assumptions, and conclusions. One protest of forest management actions were received in FY 2003.



## Coordination and Consultation

The District is involved in a considerable amount of coordination and consultation with other federal agencies, state and local governments, and private organizations. Listed below are examples of the coordination and consultation that routinely occur:

- ESA coordination/consulting/conferencing with both USFWS and NOAA Fisheries.
- Coordination with several Watershed Associations and Councils, from Coos, Curry, and Douglas Counties to facilitate habitat restoration projects.
- Serving as the lead federal agency in the Natural Resource Damage Assessment Process as a result of the New Carissa Shipwreck.
- Participation and Leadership in the Snowy Plover Working Group composed of federal and state agencies concerned with the long-term viability of the Coastal Population of the Western Snowy Plover.
- Consulting with BIA and local Tribes on issues such as the Coquille Forest and other cultural issues.
- Coordination with Coos County government on the application to construct a natural gas pipeline across public lands.
- Participation in the Southwest Oregon Provincial Interagency Executive Committee and Southwest Oregon Provincial Advisory Committee.
- U.S. Coast Guard, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians of Oregon, and the Coquille Indian Tribe in management of the Cape Blanco Lighthouse.
- Participation in the Coos County Regional Trails Partnership.
- Participation in the Reedsport's Tsalila Festival, and Bay Area Fun Festival Mountain Bike Race.
- The District maintained an active role with the Oregon Coastal Environments Awareness Network (OCEAN), to develop the Coastal Environments Learning Network.

## Research and Education

In June, 1996, the BLM published "*A Strategy for Meeting Our Research and Scientific Information Needs*", a watershed-based strategy. It lays out a strategy for identifying BLM's priority research needs, addressing all areas of science throughout the agency. It also tells how to acquire research results through partnerships with federal science agencies, the academic and non-government sectors and other sources. Guidelines for transferring research results into use are also provided.

At the state level, BLM has organized a research and monitoring committee which periodically evaluates research recommendations, and which proposes areas needing research to cooperating agencies. Virtually all western Oregon research subjects proposed for research since FY 96 have dealt with NFP topics such as Riparian, Aquatic Conservation Strategy, management of young stands, and habitat issues.



The Cooperative Forest Ecosystem Research (CFER) program is a cooperative between BLM; the Biological Resources Division, U.S. Geologic Service; Oregon State University, the Oregon Department of Forestry. CFER has recently developed a web site (<http://www.fsl.orst.edu/cfer>) which provides current information on ongoing research projects.

A number of research studies involving the management and development of young forest stands, recruitment of large woody debris and fish habitat and movement were conducted on BLM administered lands within the Coos Bay District.

Forest and Rangeland Ecosystem Science Center (FRESC) is one of 16 science and technology centers in the U.S. Geologic Service. FRESC provides research services for most Department of Interior Bureaus in the western United States. Current information on FRESC projects can be obtained from their web site (<http://fresc.fsl.orst.edu>).

## **Monitoring**

### **2003 Coos Bay District Implementation Monitoring Report**

Implementation monitoring conducted on the district was based on a process developed by the district core team utilizing the questions contained in Appendix L of the Coos Bay District RMP/ROD. Questions were separated into two lists, those that are project related and those that are more general and appropriately reported in the Annual Program Summary, such as accomplishment reports. The monitoring questions were revised as a result of the 2001 Survey and Manage SEIS. (A copy of both lists will be included in the Appendix of the Annual Program Summary.) The monitoring team in FY 2003 consisted of a district core team member with the assistance of other District personnel in reviewing several projects. The district core team selected projects for monitoring and prepared individual project reports based on the results of the office and/or field evaluation for each of the selected projects.

The following process was used for selecting individual projects to meet the RMP ROD implementation monitoring standards:

- The core team developed a list of projects occurring in FY 2003 (Table 35), located at the end of the report) based on the following stratification:
  - All advertised timber sales.
  - All silvicultural projects, with each bid item considered a project.
  - All Jobs-in-the-Woods projects with costs exceeding \$10,000.
  - Right-of-Way projects involving a considerable amount of construction or Right-of-Way timber to be removed.
  - Noxious Weed projects involving the use of herbicides.
  - Stream Restoration Projects.
  - Miscellaneous projects.
- Land use allocation and other screening factors included in the District monitoring plan stratified the listed projects.



- A random number was selected, with every fifth project from the list selected for monitoring (the monitoring plan in the ROD required 20 percent of projects within each area be monitored). The selected projects were supplemented by adding one noxious weed projects, one timber sale, one silvicultural project, and the only Right-of-Way project to meet the 20 percent requirement. In addition, several projects were switched to eliminate projects that were very simple for similar projects that were more complex. The projects selected have been **Bolded** in Table 35. Table 36 (also located at the end of the report) displays the distribution of projects available for selection and those selected for monitoring by Field Office.
- The NEPA documents, watershed analysis files and the Late-Successional Reserve Assessments applicable to each of the selected projects were reviewed and compared to answer the first part of the implementation monitoring question: were the projects prepared in accord with the underlying ROD requirements, NEPA and/or watershed analysis documentation, and /or Late-Successional Reserve Assessment documentation? Did the project contracts include what the other documents recommended be included? Seventy-two project specific questions, included as attachments to this report, were answered for each project.

Based on this initial review, we concluded that the first portion of implementation monitoring (did we do what we said we would do) has been satisfactorily accomplished for all projects included in the random sample for FY 2003, and as indicated in Table 35. Watershed analysis and NEPA documentation is adequate, and the recommendations contained in these documents have been included in the authorization documents. For those projects located within the Late-Successional Reserves, the Late-Successional Reserve Assessment adequately discussed the proposed projects without requiring additional review of projects by the Regional Ecosystem Office.

#### FY 2003 Projects in full compliance:

- Project 3 Myrtlewood FO Tree Planting Bid Item
- Project 6 Umpqua FO Devils Club DM Timber Sale (03-04)
- Project 7 Umpqua FO Noxious Weed Control
- Project 8 Myrtlewood FO Manual Maintenance Bid Item 1
- Project 12 Myrtlewood FO Roadside Noxious Weed Treatment
- Project 13 Umpqua FO Manual Maintenance Bid Item 1A
- Project 19 Myrtlewood FO Yankee Run 28-11-17.03 Culvert Replacement
- Project 23 Umpqua FO Crane Creek Fish Passage Structure
- Project 28 Umpqua FO Mosetown 11.2 Culvert Replacement
- Project 33 Myrtlewood FO Curry Hardwood Conversion
- Project 38 Myrtlewood FO Pruning Bid Item
- Project 40 Umpqua FO Pruning Bid Item 1
- Project 42 Myrtlewood FO Dora Ridge CT Timber Sale TS 03-30
- Project 43 Umpqua FO Windy Creek Culvert Removal
- Project 46 Umpqua FO Roseburg Resources Right-of-Way 21-8-15.5



Completed or partially implemented projects were reviewed in the field to answer the second part of the implementation monitoring: "Did we do on the ground what we said we would in the contract or authorizing document?" Based on the field reviews, we concluded that the second portion of implementation monitoring requirements have been satisfactorily accomplished, with one exception noted below.

FY 2003 Projects in full compliance:

- Project 3 Myrtlewood FO Tree Planting Bid Item
- Project 7 Umpqua FO Noxious Weed Control
- Project 8 Myrtlewood FO Manual Maintenance Bid Item 1
- Project 12 Myrtlewood FO Roadside Noxious Weed Treatment
- Project 13 Umpqua FO Manual Maintenance Bid Item 1A
- Project 19 Myrtlewood FO Yankee Run 28-11-17.03 Culvert Replacement
- Project 23 Umpqua FO Crane Creek Fish Passage Structure
- Project 28 Umpqua FO Mosetown 11.2 Culvert Replacement
- Project 33 Myrtlewood FO Curry Hardwood Conversion
- Project 38 Myrtlewood FO Pruning Bid Item
- Project 40 Umpqua FO Pruning Bid Item 1
- Project 42 Myrtlewood FO Dora Ridge CT Timber Sale TS 03-30
- Project 43 Umpqua FO Windy Creek Culvert Removal
- Project 46 Umpqua FO Roseburg Resources Right-of-Way 21-8-15.5

FY 2003 Projects in substantial compliance:

- Project 6 Umpqua FO Devils Club DM Timber Sale (03-04)

One area of noncompliance with the NEPA and contractual requirements was noted for this project. The EA and contract indicated the entire area was to be harvested with a cable system, with yarding equipment to remain on existing roads. As completed approximately 75 percent of the area was logged utilizing ground-based systems. The FO was aware of the noncompliance, and took steps to avoid reoccurrence in the future.

We also revisited nine projects from FY 2002 and two projects from FY 2001 in the field that had not been completed in FY 2002, to answer the second part of the implementation monitoring "Did we do on the ground what we said we would in the contract or authorizing document?" Based on the field reviews, we have concluded that the second portion of implementation monitoring requirements have been satisfactorily accomplished for the projects indicated below:

FY 2002 Projects in full compliance:

- Project 1 Myrtlewood FO Camas East DMT Timber Sale
- Project 36 Myrtlewood FO Fish Passage North Fork Elk Creek
- Project 39 Umpqua FO Culverts and Stream Restoration (South Sisters 3)
- Project 41 Umpqua FO Culverts and Stream Restoration (Bum Creek)
- Project 51 Myrtlewood FO Sandy/Slide Road Decommissioning (Road 29-10-9.0)
- Project 56 Myrtlewood FO Sandy/Slide Road Decommissioning (Road 30-10-6.1)
- Project 61 Myrtlewood FO Sandy Creek Stream Restoration
- Project 64 Myrtlewood FO Pruning Bid Item 2



- Project 66 Umpqua FO John's Creek Road

FY 2001 Projects in full compliance:

- Project 31 Umpqua FO Cedar Creek CT Timber Sale 01-02
- Project 58 Umpqua FO Mothers Goose CT Timber Sale 01-07

In FY 2004 we plan on revisiting the projects where field operations were not completed this FY, and also monitor additional projects awarded in FY 2004.

Documentation for each of the 26 projects monitored in FY 2003 are included as an appendix to the monitoring report.

### **Findings and Recommendations**

The results of our ninth year of monitoring evaluation continues to support earlier observations that, overall, the District is doing an excellent job of implementing the NFP and the Coos Bay District RMP. In general, the IDT approach to management appears to be working well and the District has planned and executed many ecologically sound management and restoration projects.

We continue to be impressed with the design and construction of many of the aquatic organism passage facilities (formerly called fish culverts). Many have employed unique designs and construction techniques to meet the objectives of allowing passage of a variety of aquatic organisms (fish, amphibians, invertebrates) that haven't always been considered with past structures. This year we observed another revision in the project design to enable tracking the movement of returning fish in the West Fork of Smith River. The newly installed Crane Creek culvert had an electronic fish counter installed by ODFW, which enables counting fish moving upstream through the culvert. It is assumed that the results of the fish counting project can be used in determining the effectiveness of projects, or potentially the effectiveness of different fish passage culvert designs.

Other projects designed to improve aquatic-habitat have also been very positive. We are particularly encouraged with the attempts to increase the amount of large woody debris in streams where there is a deficit. Projects involving placing of logs into the stream environment have resulted in virtually no disturbance of either the stream bank or surrounding ground. Other habitat improvement projects have involved introduction of a variety of conifer species into primarily hardwood dominated riparian areas through stand conversion and planting projects.

This year while conducting a review of the coarse wood placement in Sandy Creek we encountered an ODFW employee conducting spawning counts. He indicated a considerable amount of use of newly placed logs as hiding habitat for upstream migrating salmon in this first year after log installation. He also indicated that in other areas where logs had been placed in streams, he has noted an increase in the accumulation of spawning gravel, as well as the actual use of the gravel in creating redds.



We were also impressed with the continual evolution of employing new techniques for reducing potential environmental impacts or improving wildlife and fisheries habitat. Examples noted this year included: the continued use of feller-buncher and forwarder type equipment for harvesting small diameter timber as noted on the Mothers Goose CT and Camas East DMT sales. We also noted the use of filter fabric and coarse rock as a cross drain culvert installation on the John's Creek Road Repair Project. This may become a method for low maintenance cross drains on timber roads. We feel that had we looked at additional projects the number of examples would be considerably larger.

Although we had a small sample of nearly completed timber sales to review this year, we continue to be impressed with the efforts of contract administrators and contractors to protect existing snags and coarse woody debris, green retention trees, and to retain sufficient coarse woody material.

Despite the many successes there are several areas where, based upon our monitoring this past year and in some cases previous years, we feel we can do a better job.

**Finding:** All silvicultural contracts and construction projects within the natural range of Port-Orford-cedar (POC) contained provisions for compliance with the *Port-Orford Cedar Management Guidelines*. Most contracts required equipment washing and seasonal restrictions for the control of noxious weeds and also to restrict the spread of the POC root rot disease. In addition, several contracts required cutting of all POC within the treatment areas. This corrected findings from past monitoring reports.

**Finding:** The Noxious Weed Control Project contract maps were greatly improved from those used in projects several years ago. Treatment areas in the Umpqua FO were based on road systems with fairly large, to very large concentrations of broom species. Maps in the Myrtlewood project were large scale and indicated where treatments were required. In both FOs it was relatively easy to identify treatment areas, and the success of the treatments. This finding rectifies the deficiency noted in previous monitoring reports.

The Umpqua FO Noxious Weed project required spraying of blackberry this year. Although the plants were treated by the contractor results were not very effective, as the plants while sick, appeared to survive the treatment.

#### **Recommendations:**

Keep up the good work with the contract preparation and mapping.

Select a different herbicide available for use by BLM or adjust the timing of application to improve effectiveness on blackberry plants.

Table 35 lists the project numbers for each management action used in the Screening Spreadsheet for selection of units.

Table 36 lists the FY 2003 projects available and selected for monitoring by selection factors.



**Table 35. FY 2003 Project Numbers**

Project number	Specifics on project identification, Name, Unit number, etc.
1	Umpqua FO Oxbow 16 Timber Sale (03-01) (EA 02-06)
2	Myrtlewood FO Tree Planting Bid Item 1 (118 acres) (CX 03-01)
3	<b>Myrtlewood FO Tree Planting Bid Item 2 (63 acres) (CX 03-01)</b>
4	Umpqua FO Shotgun DM Timber Sale (03-02) (EA 99-05)
5	Myrtlewood FO Curry County Hardwood Conversion (EA 03-02)
6	<b>Umpqua FO Devils Club DM Timber Sale (03-04) (EA 02-06)</b>
7	<b>Umpqua FO Noxious Weed Control (EA 97-11)</b>
8	<b>Myrtlewood FO Manual Maintenance Bid Item 1 (380 acres) (CX 03-03)</b>
9	Myrtlewood FO Manual Maintenance Bid Item 2 (30 acres) (CX 03-03)
10	Myrtlewood FO Manual Maintenance Bid Item 3 (68 acres) (CX 03-03)
11	Myrtlewood FO Manual Maintenance Bid Item 4 (162 acres) (CX 03-03)
12	<b>Myrtlewood FO Roadside Noxious Weed Treatment (35 acres) (EA 97-11)</b>
13	<b>Umpqua FO Manual Maintenance Bid Item 1A (301 acres) (CX 03-03)</b>
14	Umpqua FO Manual Maintenance Bid Item 1B (31 acres) (CX 03-03)
15	Umpqua FO Manual Maintenance Bid Item 2 (118 acres) (CX 03-03)
16	Umpqua FO Manual Maintenance Bid Item 3A (316 acres) (CX 03-03)
17	Umpqua FO Manual Maintenance Bid Item 3B (47 acres) (CX 03-03)
18	Umpqua FO Manual Maintenance Bid Item 3C (186 acres) (CX 03-03)
19	<b>Myrtlewood FO Yankee Run 28-11-17.03 Culvert Replacement (EA 02-12 DNA 2)</b>
20	Myrtlewood FO Yankee Run 28-11-20.0 MP 1.0 Culvert Replacement (EA 02-12 DNA 2)
21	Myrtlewood FO Yankee Run 28-11-20.0 MP 2.3 Culvert Replacement (EA 02-12 DNA 2)
22	Myrtlewood FO Axe Creek 29-11-13.03 MP 0.0 Culvert Replacement (EA 02-12 DNA 2)
23	<b>Umpqua FO Crane Creek Fish Passage Structure (EA 93-12 DNA 8)</b>
24	Umpqua FO Elk Wallow Quarry (JITW)
25	Myrtlewood FO Yankee Run Right Fork Large Wood placement and Riparian Treatment (EA 01-08 DNA 4)
26	Myrtlewood FO Upper Hantz Creek Log Hauling and Placement (EA 01-08 DNA 2)
27	Umpqua FO South Sisters 13 B 4.7 Culvert Replacement (EA 97-12 DNA 13)
28	<b>Umpqua FO Mosetown 11.2 Culvert Replacement (EA 97-12 DNA 13)</b>
29	Umpqua FO Paradise 2.5 Culvert Replacement
30	Umpqua FO Soup Creek Culvert Replacement (EA 97-12 DNA 13)



Project number	Specifics on project identification, Name, Unit number, etc.
31	Myrtlewood FO Curry Hardwood Road Renovation #39-13-30.1 (EA 03-02)
32	Myrtlewood FO Curry Hardwood Road Construction #39-13-22.1 (EA 03-02)
33	<b>Myrtlewood FO Curry Hardwood Conversion (55 Acres) (EA 03-02)</b>
34	Myrtlewood FO Precommercial Thinning Bid Item 1 (687 Acres) (CX 03-03)
35	Myrtlewood FO Precommercial Thinning Bid Item 2 (116 Acres) (CX 03-03)
36	Myrtlewood FO Pruning Bid Item 1 (611 Acres) (EA 91-12 DNA 15)
37	Myrtlewood FO Pruning Bid Item 2 (138 Acres) (EA 91-12 DNA 15)
38	<b>Myrtlewood FO Pruning Bid Item 3 (251 Acres) (EA 91-12 DNA 15)</b>
39	Umpqua FO Pruning Bid Item 1 (31 Acres) (EA 91-12 DNA 14)
40	<b>Umpqua FO Pruning Bid Item 1 (98 Acres) (EA 91-12 DNA 14)</b>
41	Umpqua FO Lost Creek Culvert
42	<b>Myrtlewood FO Dora Ridge CT Timber Sale TS 03-30 (EA 128-02-01)</b>
43	<b>Umpqua FO Windy Creek Culvert Removal (EA 97-12 DNA 12)</b>
44	Umpqua FO Burnt Out DM Timber Sale 03-
45	Umpqua FO West Tioga DM Timber Sale 03-
46	<b>Umpqua FO Roseburg Resources Right-of-Way 21-8-15.5</b>



Table 36. FY 2003 Projects Available and Selected for Monitoring by Selection Factors

Type of Project	Number in Selection Pool	Number Selected in Myrtlewood FO	Number Selected in Umpqua FO
Advertised Timber Sales	6	1	1
Regeneration Harvest <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0
Thinning/Density Management <sup>1</sup>	6	1	1
Salvage Sales	0	0	0
Silvicultural Projects	21	4	2
Road Decommissioning	0	0	0
Culvert Replacement	9	1	2
Stream Habitat Improvement	3	0	1
Right-of-Way Projects	5	0	1
Noxious Weeds	2	1	1
Other	3	0	0
Jobs-in-the-Woods <sup>2</sup>	7	1	1
Recreation Projects	0	0	0
Within or adjacent to Riparian Reserves <sup>3</sup>	36	6	8
Within Key Watersheds <sup>3</sup>	1	0	1
Within Late-Successional Reserves <sup>3</sup>	13	2	2
Adjacent to ACEC	0	0	0
Within VRM Class II or III areas	0	0	0
Within Rural Interface Area	0	0	0
Involve Burning <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0
Total Projects Available/Selected <sup>4</sup>	46/15	23/7	23/8

<sup>1</sup> Included in the Timber Sales listed above.

<sup>2</sup> Included in the culvert replacement, stream habitat improvement, and other projects listed above.

<sup>3</sup> Projects selected were included in Timber sales, Silvicultural, Right-of-Way, or other projects listed above.

<sup>4</sup> The number of projects available for selection and selected are not additive, as many occurred within Timber Sales, Silvicultural, Culvert Replacement, Habitat Improvement, Right-of-Way, or Other projects listed above.



## Province Level Implementation Monitoring

In 2003, the provincial implementation monitoring effort responded to the Regional Executives desire to continue monitoring projects that have been under-represented in previous years monitoring efforts, as well as continuing to monitor the process type questions within watersheds. Projects to be monitored were prioritized, with density management projects within Late-Successional Reserves having the highest priority, followed by prescribed fire, grazing, mining, and recreation.

Within the Southwest Oregon Province the East Camas Density Management project and the Clark's Fork Prescribed Burn projects were randomly selected by the Regional Implementation Monitoring Team to be monitored in 2003. For each of these randomly selected projects, the 5<sup>th</sup> field watershed in which they were located was to be monitored for compliance with implementation of the monitoring processes at the watershed level. The Clark's Fork project is located in the Big Butte Creek 5<sup>th</sup> field watershed, within the Butte Falls Ranger District on the Rogue River National Forest. The Camas East project is located within the East Fork Coquille River 5<sup>th</sup> field watershed, in the BLM Coos Bay District's Myrtlewood Field Office.

Implementation monitoring of the selected projects was conducted by a provincial monitoring team comprised of members of the Southwestern Oregon Provincial Advisory Committee and some federal agency representatives. Implementation monitoring of projects is designed to answer the question "... have the agencies implemented the project in accord with the Standards and Guidelines contained in the Northwest Forest Plan?" Implementation monitoring of the watersheds is designed to answer the question "... have the agencies implemented projects within the 5<sup>th</sup> field watershed in accord with the processes required by the Northwest Forest Plan?"

Results of the FY 2003 Provincial Monitoring efforts are anticipated to be available in the spring of 2004. The Implementation Monitoring Reports for 2004 and all previous years reports are available on the internet (<http://www.reo.gov/monitoring/reports>).



## Effectiveness Monitoring

The District continues to work with the state Research and Monitoring Committee and the Interagency Regional Monitoring Team, in the development of the components for effectiveness monitoring of the NWFP. The Regional Effectiveness Monitoring Program is focused on monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of the NWFP. The results from this program include resource status and trend, compliance with standards and guides, and evaluations of the effectiveness of the plan. Results from this program generally require a longer time period than what is typical from implementation monitoring activities. Effectiveness monitoring of the entire NWFP area is being done for the following areas:

- Late-Successional and Old-growth Forest Habitat.
- Marbled Murrelet Populations and Habitat.
- Northern Spotted Owl Populations and Habitat.
- Watershed Condition (AREMP).
- Socio-Economic Conditions.
- Tribal Relationships.

The 10-year monitoring evaluation report (due 12/2004) is a research-monitoring evaluation of the effectiveness of the NWFP. This report will provide insights into how well the plan is working, including changes that might be needed to the monitoring program itself. Several modules have been undergoing serious evaluations of ways to improve the efficiency of this monitoring including: the Northern Spotted Owl, AREMP, and implementation modules.

Additional information on the Effectiveness Monitoring program is available on the internet (<http://www.reo.gov/monitoring>).



## **Resource Management Plan Maintenance**

The *Coos Bay District Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision* (RMP/ROD) was approved in May 1995. Since then, the District has been implementing the plan across the entire spectrum of resources and land use allocations. As the plan is implemented, it sometimes becomes necessary to make minor changes, refinements, or clarifications of the plan. These actions are called plan maintenance. They do not result in expansion of the scope of resource uses or restrictions or changes in terms, conditions and decisions of the approved RMP/ROD. Plan maintenance does not require environmental analysis, formal public involvement or interagency coordination.

The following minor changes, refinements, or clarifications have been implemented as a part of plan maintenance for the Coos Bay District. To the extent necessary, the following items have been coordinated with the REO. These are condensed descriptions of the plan maintenance items, and include the major maintenance items previously reported in the 1996 to 2002 APS. Detailed descriptions are available at the Coos Bay District Office by contacting Steven Fowler.

### **FY 96 to FY 2002 Plan Maintenance Items**

#### **Refinement of Management Actions/Direction relating to Riparian Reserves**

The term “site-potential tree” height for Riparian Reserve widths has been defined as “the average maximum height of the tallest dominant trees (200 years or older) for a given site class”. (See Northwest Forest Plan Record of Decision (NFP ROD) page C-31, RMP/ROD page 12). This definition will be used throughout the RMP/ROD.

The method used for determining the height of a “site-potential tree” is described in Instruction Memorandum OR-95-075, as reviewed by the REO. The following steps will be used:

- Determine the naturally adapted tree species which is capable of achieving the greatest height within the fifth field watershed and/or stream reach in question.
- Determine the height and age of dominant trees through on-site measurements or from inventory data.
- Average the site index information across the watershed using inventory plots, or well-distributed site index data, or riparian specific data where index values have large variations.
- Select the appropriate site index curve.
- Use Table 1 (included in Instruction Memo OR-95-075) to determine the maximum tree height potential which equates to one site potential tree for prescribing Riparian Reserve widths.

Additional details concerning site-potential tree height determinations is contained in the above referenced memorandum. The site potential tree heights for the Coos Bay District are generally in the range of 180 to 220 feet.



### **Refinement of Management Actions/Direction relating to Riparian Reserves**

Both the RMP/ROD (page 12) and the NFP ROD (page B-13) contain the statement "Although Riparian Reserve boundaries on permanently-flowing streams may be adjusted, they are considered to be the approximate widths necessary for attaining Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives." The REO and Research and Monitoring Committee agreed that a reasonable standard of accuracy for "approximate widths" for measuring Riparian Reserve widths in the field for management activities is plus or minus 20 feet or plus or minus 10 percent of the calculated width.

### **Existing Roads Within Key Watersheds**

Numerous interdisciplinary teams have struggled with how to define the existing baseline for roads within Key Watersheds. Guidance on how to define the baseline roads or the discretionary ability to close roads was not included in the RMP Management Action/Direction for Key Watersheds. Information Bulletin OR-2000-134 issued on March 13, 2000, clarified what roads shall be included in the 1994 BLM road inventory base used as a starting point to monitor the "reduction of road mileage within Key Watersheds" as follows:

Any road in existence on BLM administered land as of April 1994, regardless of ownership or whether it was in the road records, shall be included in the 1994 base road inventory.

Also, include BLM-controlled roads on non-BLM administered lands. A BLM controlled road is one where the BLM has the authority to modify or close the road. Do not include skid roads/trails, as technically they are not roads.

For the Coos Bay District, this clarification can be accomplished by adding the language as stated above to page 7 of the RMP/ROD.

### **Minor Refinement of Management Actions/Direction relating to coarse woody debris retention in the Matrix**

The RMP/ROD describes the retention requirements for coarse woody debris (CWD) as follows: "A minimum of 120 linear feet of logs per acre, averaged over the cutting area and reflecting the species mix of the unit, will be retained in the cutting area. All logs shall have bark intact, be at least 16 inches in diameter at the large end, and be at least 16 feet in length..." (RMP/ROD pages 22, 28, 58).

Instruction Memorandum No. OR-95-028, Change 1 recognized "that in many cases there will be large diameter decay class 1 and 2 logs resulting from breakage during logging left on the unit. These log sections possess desirable CWD characteristics, but under the above standards and guidelines do not count because they are less than 16 feet long. Based on field examination of these large diameter, shorter length logs, it seems prudent to recognize that these tree sections have a substantial presence on the landscape and are likely to provide the desired CWD form and function despite the fact their length is shorter than the specified minimum. As such, districts may count decay class 1 and 2 tree sections equal to or greater than 30 inches in diameter on the large end that are between 6 and 16 feet in length toward the 120 linear feet requirement."



## Coarse Woody Debris Management

Information Bulletin OR 97-064 provided clarification on Implementation of Coarse Woody Debris Management Actions/Direction as shown on page 22, 28, and 53 of the Coos Bay ROD. The Information Bulletin provided options and clarification for the following CWD features:

- Retention of existing CWD;
- Crediting linear feet of logs;
- Crediting of large diameter short pieces using a cubic foot equivalency alternative;
- Standing tree CWD retention versus felling to provide CWD substrate, and;
- Application of the basic guideline in areas of partial harvest.

## 15 Percent Analysis

Joint BLM/FS final guidance, which incorporated the federal executives' agreement, was issued on September 14, 1998, as BLM - Instruction Memorandum No. OR-98-100. It emphasizes terminology and intent related to the Standards and Guidelines (S&G), provides methods for completing the assessment for each fifth field watershed, dictates certain minimum documentation requirements and establishes effective dates for implementation.

## Conversion to Cubic Measurement System

Beginning in FY 98 (October 1998) all timber sales will be measured and sold based on cubic measurement rules. All timber sales will be sold based upon volume of hundred cubic feet (CCF). The Coos Bay District RMP ROD declared an allowable harvest level of 5.3 million cubic feet. Information for changes in units of measure are contained in Instruction Memorandum No. OR - 97-045.

## Redesignation of Land Status

Public Law 101-42, as amended required in part, *...the Secretary shall redesignate, from public domain lands within the tribe's service area, as defined in this Act, certain lands to be subject to the O&C Act. Lands redesignated under this subparagraph shall not exceed lands sufficient to constitute equivalent timber value as compared to lands constituting the Coquille Forest.* The District has identified approximately 8,182 acres of PD which would be redesignated as CBWR or O&C to have "equivalent timber value" to the approximate 4,800 acres of CBWR and O&C within the Coquille Forest. The redesignation is as follows:

- Approximately 2,730 acres redesignated from PD to CBWR located in Coos County.
- Approximately 154 acres redesignated from PD to O&C located in Lane County.
- Approximately 2,117 acres redesignated from PD to O&C located in Douglas County.
- Approximately 3,179 acres redesignated from PD to O&C located in Curry County.

The notice redesignating the identified PD lands was published in the *Federal Register*, Vol. 65, No. 96 on May 17, 2000 with an effective date of July 16, 2000.

*Note: The complete legal descriptions of the lands involved are available from the office.*



### **Third Year Evaluation**

On July 31, 2001, the Oregon/Washington State Director, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), issued the following findings based on the Third Year Plan Evaluation for the Coos Bay District.

“The legislated transfer of Coos Bay District administered lands to the Coquille Indian Tribe and the creation of additional late-successional land use allocations through the discovery and protection of additional occupied marbled murrelet sites as required under the Northwest Forest Plan and Coos Bay District RMP has resulted in a reduction of the land base available for planned timber harvest. These reductions which are non-discretionary under either law or management action/direction require that the annual productive capacity (allowable harvest level) of the South Coast - Curry Master Units be reduced from its current level. I hereby declare that, effective October 1, 1998, the annual productive capacity of the South Coast - Curry Master Unit is 4.5 million cubic feet. Because this variation in ASQ is consistent with RMP assumptions and was discussed in both the RMP FEIS and RMP Record of Decision, a plan amendment is not warranted.

Based on this plan evaluation which included information through Fiscal Year 1998, I find that the Coos Bay District RMP goals and objectives are being met or are likely to be met, and that the environmental consequences of the plan are similar to those anticipated in the RMP FEIS and that there is no new information, as of September 30, 1998, that would substantively alter the RMP conclusions. Therefore a plan amendment or plan revision of the Coos Bay District RMP is not warranted. This document meets the requirements for a plan evaluation as provided in 43 CFR 1610.4-9.”

This Plan Maintenance changes the Coos Bay District Resource Management Plan (RMP) by deleting all references to the previously declared Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ) of 5.3 million cubic feet (MMCF)(32 million board feet [MMBF]) and replacing it with 4.5 MMCF (27 MMBF) in the RMP and Appendices. In addition, the non-interchangeable component of the allowable sale quantity attributable to Key Watersheds (as stated on page 7 of the RMP) is reduced from approximately 0.5 MMCF (3 MMBF) to approximately 0.4 MMCF (2.4 MMBF).

### **Land Acquisition and Disposal**

The following acquisition and disposal actions have occurred on the District since the RMP ROD was published.

1994

Acquired via purchase approximately 111 acres adjacent to the New River ACEC in Curry County. The lands acquired by purchase will be managed as part of the New River ACEC with a Land Use Allocation (LUA) of District Defined Reserve.

Acquired via purchase approximately 127 acres archaeological site in Douglas County. The lands acquired by purchase will be managed as an archaeological site with a LUA of District Defined Reserve.



1995

Acquired via purchase approximately 50 acres adjacent to the New River ACEC in Coos County.

Acquired via purchase approximately 54 acres adjacent to the New River ACEC in Curry County. The lands acquired by purchase will be managed as part of the New River ACEC with a LUA of District Defined Reserve.

Acquired Edson Park via donation, approximately 44 acres in Curry County. These lands will be managed as a recreation site, with a LUA of District Defined Reserve.

Acquired 160 acres adjacent to the North Fork Hunter Creek ACEC, disposed of 40 acres of Matrix lands in an exchange (a net increase of 120 acres) in Curry County. The lands acquired in this exchange will be managed as part of the ACEC with a LUA of District Defined Reserve.

Acquired approximately 56 acres adjacent to the Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area (Spruce Reach Island) as a portion of an exchange originating on the Roseburg District. The lands acquired will be managed as part of the Elk Viewing Area with a LUA of District Defined Reserve.

1996

Public Law 104-333 transferred jurisdiction from the BLM of *Squaw Island, Zwagg Island, North Sisters Rock and...All federally-owned named, unnamed, surveyed and unsurveyed rocks, reefs, islets and islands lying within three geographic miles off the coast of Oregon and above mean high tide except Chiefs Islands... are designated as wilderness and shall become part of the Oregon Islands Wilderness under the jurisdiction of the US Fish and Wildlife Service.* This involves approximately 11 acres of PD land located in Coos and Curry Counties. These lands were included in the District Defined Reserve land use allocation.

1997

Acquired approximately 76 acres adjacent to the North Spit ACEC, disposed of approximately 320 acres (part of the effluent lagoon on the North Spit) in an exchange (a net decrease of 244 acres) in Coos County. The lands acquired will be managed as part of the North Spit ACEC with a LUA of District Defined Reserve.

1998

Acquired via purchase approximately 71 acres adjacent to the New River ACEC in Coos County. The lands acquired by purchase will be managed as part of the New River ACEC with a LUA of District Defined Reserve.

Disposed of approximately 5,410 acres of Matrix LUA lands in a jurisdictional transfer to the BIA as the "Coquille Forest" in Coos County.



1999

The District disposed of approximately 2 acres of PD land located in Coos County by direct sale to Bally Bandon. These lands were included in the Matrix land use allocation.

2000

The District disposed of approximately 1 acre of CBWR land located in Coos County by direct sale to Enos Ralph. These lands were included in the Matrix land use allocation.

The District disposed of approximately 2 acres of CBWR land located in Coos County by direct sale to Leslie Crum. These lands were included in the Matrix (Connectivity/Diversity Block) land use allocation.

A Solicitor's Opinion was issued in FY 2000, which resolved title of the Coos Bay Wagon Road. Where the road crosses public land, a 100 foot strip belongs to the county. In the Coos Bay District, the ownership is Coos County; the portion in Douglas County which is in the Roseburg District, belongs to Douglas County. Approximately 15 miles of road crosses CBWR and O&C land in Coos Bay District. As a result of this opinion, the Matrix is reduced by approximately 137 acres and the LSR is reduced by approximately 55 acres.

2001

The District acquired approximately 44 acres within the Coos Bay Shorelands ACEC, in Coos County. The lands acquired will be managed as part of the Coos Bay Shorelands ACEC with a LUA of District Defined Reserve

2002

The District acquired via purchase approximately 2 acres of land located within the Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area in Douglas County. The lands acquired will be managed as part of the Dean Creek EVA with a LUA of District Defined Reserve.

The US Army Corps of Engineers relinquished approximately 313 acres lands under their jurisdiction within the Coos Bay Shorelands ACEC, in Coos County. As a result, the lands were returned to the public domain. The lands will be managed as part of the Coos Bay Shorelands ACEC with a LUA of District Defined Reserve.

2003

No acquisitions or disposals occurred in FY 2003.

### **Survey and Manage Species Management**

Instruction Memorandum OR 97-009 provided Interim Guidance and Survey Protocol for the Red Tree Vole a Survey and Manage Component 2 species, in November 1996. (*Note: this protocol has been superceded by Instruction Memorandum OR 2000-37.*)

Management Recommendations were provided in January 1997 for 18 Bryophyte species.



Management Recommendations were provided in September 1997 for 29 groups of Survey and Manage Fungi species.

Survey and Manage Survey Protocols - Mollusks were provided in August 1998 as Instruction Memorandum No. OR-98-097.

Survey and Manage Survey Protocols - Lynx was provided in January 1999 as Instruction Memorandum No. OR-99-25.

Survey and Manage Survey Protocols - for fifteen Vascular Plant species was provided in January 1999 as Instruction Memorandum No. OR-99-26.

Survey and Manage Management Recommendations - for fifteen Vascular Plant species was provided in January 1999 as Instruction Memorandum No. OR-99-27.

Survey and Manage Management Recommendations - for nineteen aquatic mollusk species was provided in March 1999 as Instruction Memorandum No. OR-99-38.

Survey and Manage Management Recommendations - for five bryophyte species was provided in March 1999 as Instruction Memorandum No. OR-99-39.

Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2000-003 dated October 1999 transmitted Management Recommendations for 23 Terrestrial Mollusks.

Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2000-004 dated October 1999 transmitted survey protocol for five amphibians.

Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2000-015 dated November 1999 transmitted Management Recommendations for four Terrestrial Mollusks.

Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2000-017 dated December 1999 and June 2000 transmitted survey protocol and corrections for six bryophyte species.

Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2000-018 dated December 1999 transmitted survey protocol for seven fungi.

Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2000-037 dated February 2000 transmitted survey protocol for the red tree vole.

Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2000-042 dated March 2000 transmitted Management Recommendations for 29 lichens.

Information Bulletin No. OR-2000-315 dated August 2000 transmitted revised survey protocol for the Marbled Murrelet.



Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2000-086 dated September 2000 transmitted Management Recommendations for the red tree vole.

Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2002-080 dated August 16, 2002 amended the Management Recommendations for 24 vascular plants, lichens, bryophytes, and fungi species to facilitate certain National Fire Plan Activities within one mile of at-risk communities identified in the August 2001 Federal Register.

### **Marbled Murrelet Surveys**

This plan maintenance clarifies the situations where conducting two years of survey prior to any human disturbance of marbled murrelet habitat may not be practical. In situations where only scattered, individual trees are affected, such as fisheries tree lining projects, hiring trained climbers to climb individual trees to look for murrelet nests can meet the intent of assuring marbled murrelet nesting habitat is not harmed. In some situations, climbers can detect murrelet nests several years after the nest has been used. With projects like tree lining where the impact is at the tree level and not the stand level, climbing actually gives better results for ascertaining the impact of the project to murrelets.

For the Coos Bay District this clarification can be accomplished by revising the language on page 36 as follows: Conduct surveys to accepted protocol standards prior to any human disturbance of marbled murrelet habitat. This revised language will provide more flexibility in conducting the required murrelet surveys, but will not result in the expansion of the scope of resource uses or restrictions or change the terms, conditions and decisions of the approved RMP.

### **2001 Survey and Manage Amendment to the Northwest Forest Plan**

The Survey and Manage mitigation in the Northwest Forest Plan was amended in January 2001 through the signing of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the *"Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Amendment to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines."* The intent of the amendment was to incorporate up-to-date science into management of Survey and Manage species and to utilize the agencies' limited resources more efficiently. The ROD provides approximately the same level of protection intended in the Northwest Forest Plan but eliminates inconsistent and redundant direction and establishes a process for adding or removing species when new information becomes available.

The ROD reduced the number of species requiring the Survey and Manage mitigation, dropping 72 species in all or part of their range. The remaining species were then placed into 6 different management categories, based on their relative rarity, whether surveys can be easily conducted, and whether there is uncertainty as to their need to be included in this mitigation. The following table shows a break down of the placement of these 346 species, and a brief description of management actions required for each.



Redefine Categories Based on Species Characteristics			
Relative Rarity	Pre-Disturbance Surveys Practical	Pre-Disturbance Surveys Not Practical	Status Undetermined Pre-disturbance Surveys Not Practical
Rare	Category A - 57 species <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage All Known Sites</li> <li>• Pre-Disturbance Surveys</li> <li>• Strategic Surveys</li> </ul>	Category B - 222 species <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage All Known Sites</li> <li>• N/A</li> <li>• Strategic Surveys</li> </ul>	Category E - 22 species <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage All Known Sites</li> <li>• N/A</li> <li>• Strategic Surveys</li> </ul>
Uncommon	Category C - 10 species <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage High-Priority Sites</li> <li>• Pre-Disturbance Surveys</li> <li>• Strategic Surveys</li> </ul>	Category D - 14 species <sup>1</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage High-Priority Sites</li> <li>• N/A</li> <li>• Strategic Surveys</li> </ul>	Category F - 21 species <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> <li>• N/A</li> <li>• Strategic Surveys</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Includes three species for which pre-disturbance surveys are not necessary

The ROD identifies species management direction for each of the above categories. Uncommon species categories C and D require the management of “high priority” sites only, while category F requires no known site management. The new Standards and Guidelines also establish an in-depth process for reviewing and evaluating the placement of species into the different management categories. This process allows for adding, removing, or moving species around into various categories, based on the new information acquired through our surveys.

Approval of the *Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Amendment to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standard and Guidelines* amended the Standards and Guidelines contained in the Northwest Forest Plan Record of Decision related to Survey and Manage, Protection Buffers, Protect Sites from Grazing, Manage Recreation Areas to Minimize Disturbance to Species, and Provide Additional Protection for Caves, Mines, and Abandoned Wooden Bridges and Building That Are Used as Roost Sites for Bats. These standards and guidelines were removed and replaced by the contents of the *Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Amendment to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standard and Guidelines*.

Plan Maintenance actions to delete all references to Management Action/Direction for Survey and Manage and Protection Buffer species in the Coos Bay District Resource Management Plan and Appendices and adopt the Standards and Guidelines contained in the *Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Amendment to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures* are required in response to the Record of Decision.

Copies of the ROD and Final SEIS may be obtained by writing the Regional Ecosystem Office at PO Box 3623, Portland, Oregon 97208, or they can be accessed at <http://www.or.blm.gov/nwfpnepa>.



## **Clarification of Administrative Actions That Are in Conformance with the RMP, Road Maintenance and Tree Falling for Timber Cruises**

Administrative actions that are in conformance with the RMP are discussed in the Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP) for the Coos Bay District (page 4). Administrative actions are the day-to-day transactions that provide optimum use of the resources. Various administrative actions that are in conformance with the plan are specifically listed in the discussion, however, the list was not intended to be inclusive of all such actions ("These actions are in conformance with the plan. They include but are not limited to..." "These and other administrative actions will be conducted...").

The ROD/RMP and BLM planning regulations provide that potential minor changes, refinements or clarifications may take the form of plan maintenance actions (ROD/RMP pg 77, 43 CFR 1610.5-4). Maintenance actions are not considered a plan amendment. It is necessary to clarify the status of the day-to-day actions of road maintenance and tree falling for timber cruises.

### **Road Maintenance**

This plan maintenance clarifies the relationship of routine road maintenance to the RMP. Under the RMP, routine road maintenance is considered an administrative action which is in conformance with the RMP. Routine road maintenance is performed day to day and provides for the optimum use and protection of the transportation system and natural resources.

The Coos Bay District road inventory includes approximately 1,800 miles of roads. Routine forest management activity includes maintenance of forest roads. While certain routine road maintenance is scheduled, other routine road maintenance is in response to specific needs that are identified by District personnel or the location of timber hauling activity for a given year. Although year to year levels of road maintenance vary, the District has maintained an average of 500 miles of road per year (Coos Bay District Proposed Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement, page 3-8). This rate of maintenance provides that most District roads are maintained approximately every three years, although some roads may be maintained more frequently, or even on an annual basis. Road maintenance includes activities such as grading road surfaces, cleaning road ditches, cleaning culvert catch basins, minor culvert replacement, mulching and seeding of exposed slopes, clearing of fallen trees, removal of hazard trees, brushing for sight clearance, etc. Road maintenance may also include the correction of routine storm damage. Heavy storm damage to roads that require engineering and environmental design or analysis would not be considered routine road maintenance and would not be conducted as an administrative action. This clarification of the RMP does not result in the expansion of the scope of resource uses or restrictions or change the terms, conditions and decisions of the approved RMP.

### **Tree Falling for Timber Cruises**

This plan maintenance clarifies the relationship of tree falling for timber cruises to the RMP. Under the RMP, tree falling for timber cruises is considered an administrative action which is in



conformance with the RMP. Tree falling is performed on a regular basis and provides for the optimum use and protection of the forest resource.

The Coos Bay District cruises forest stands to evaluate the timber available for proposed projects, including timber sales and land exchanges. Cruising involves indirect measurement of the standing timber volume and condition by non-destructive sampling of the stand. In conjunction with the cruise, a sub-set of this sample of trees may need to be felled to directly measure the timber volume and condition. This direct measurement is used to ensure the accuracy of the indirect measure of timber volume and condition. For many projects, "3-P" sampling may be used, in which the probability of selecting any tree in the stand is proportional to a predicted volume of timber ("probability is proportional to prediction" or "3-P"). For some projects, especially silvicultural thinning in relatively homogeneous stands, trees may be felled to construct a volume table in which the timber volume of sample trees is related to the tree diameter.

The number of trees felled is dependent on site and stand conditions, especially the amount of defect in the timber. In relatively homogeneous stands of young timber with little defect, few if any trees are needed to be felled. In large and heterogeneous stands, especially those with much timber defect, more trees may need to be felled in the project area. Trees felled are scattered widely and randomly over the project area, generally at a density of one tree per acre. Tree falling for timber cruises involves less than one percent of the trees in a stand. Felled trees are cut into lengths for direct measurement of volume and direct evaluation of timber condition. The removal or retention of the felled trees is addressed in a project specific environmental assessment. Tree falling for timber cruises does not take place in late-successional reserves. This clarification of the RMP does not result in the expansion of the scope of resource uses or restrictions or change the terms, conditions and decisions of the approved RMP.

### **Change in the formal evaluation cycle for the RMP**

This plan maintenance revises the formal evaluation cycle for the RMP from a three year cycle to a five year cycle.

The RMP, in the Use of the Completed Plan section, established a three year interval for conducting plan evaluations. The purpose of a plan evaluation is to determine if there is significant new information and/or changed circumstance to warrant amendment or revision of the plan. The ecosystem approach of the RMP is based on long term management actions to achieve multiple resource objectives including; habitat development, species protection, and commodity outputs. The relatively short three year-cycle has been found to be inappropriate for determining if long term goals and objectives will be met. A five year interval is more appropriate given the resource management actions and decisions identified in the RMP. The Annual Program Summaries and Monitoring Reports continue to provide the cumulative RMP accomplishments. Changes to the RMP continue through appropriate amendments and plan maintenance actions. A five year interval for conducting evaluations is consistent with the BLM planning regulations as revised in November 2000.



The State Directors decision to change the evaluation interval from three years to five years was made on March 8, 2002. The next evaluation of the Coos Bay District RMP will address implementation through September 2003.

## FY 2003 Plan Maintenance Items

### Land Acquisition and Disposal

The District did not acquire or dispose of any lands in FY 2003.

In FY 2003 the US Air Force relinquished approximately 43 acres of lands under their jurisdiction at Coos Head, in Coos County. As a result, the lands were turned over to GSA for disposal and not returned to the public domain. The relinquishment did not affect the total district acres because lands withdrawn to other agencies are not included in district acreage unless they are returned to the public domain.

Table 1 published in the Coos Bay RMP ROD is updated as shown below in Table 37.

County	O&C	CBWR	PD	Acquired	Other	Total Surface <sup>1</sup>	Reserved Minerals
Coos	93,943	60,447	6,464	414	0	161,268	7,828
Curry	3,258	0	28,762	270	0	32,290	2,589
Douglas	123,558	636	6,369	135	0	130,698	1,735
Lane	154	0	401	0	0	555	0
Totals	220,913	61,083	41,996	819	0	324,811	12,152

<sup>1</sup> Acres are based on the master title plat and titles for land acquisitions and disposals. It reflects changes in ownership and land status from March 1993 to September 2003. Acres are not the same as shown in the GIS.

### Eighth Year Evaluation

A periodic evaluation of land use plans and environmental review procedures is required by the Bureau's planning regulations (43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 1610.4-9) to determine the status of Resource Management Plan implementation, conformance and monitoring.

The BLM planning handbook (H-1601-1, V, B.) states.... *"Land use plan (LUP) evaluations determine if decisions are being implemented, whether mitigation measures are satisfactory, whether there are significant changes in the related plans of other entities, whether there is new data of significance to the plan, and if decisions should be changed through amendment or revision."*

The current evaluation period ended at the close of Fiscal Year 2003 and the evaluation process has begun. When completed, results will be made available to the public on the Coos Bay District website: <http://www.or.blm.gov/coosbay/planning.htm>



## Glossary

**Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ)** - The gross amount of timber volume, including salvage, that may be sold annually from a specified area over a stated period of time in accordance with the management plan. Formerly referred to as “allowable cut.”

**Anadromous Fish** - Fish that are hatched and reared in freshwater, move to the ocean to grow and mature, and return to freshwater to reproduce. Salmon, steelhead, shad are examples.

**Archaeological Site** - A geographic locale that contains the material remains of prehistoric and/or historic human activity.

**Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)** - An area of BLM-administered lands where special management attention is needed to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes; or to protect life and provide safety from natural hazards. (Also see Potential ACEC.)

**Best Management Practices (BMP)** - Methods, measures, or practices designed to prevent or reduce water pollution. Not limited to structural and nonstructural controls, and procedures for operations and maintenance. Usually, BMPs are applied as a system of practices rather than a single practice.

**Biological Diversity** - The variety of life and its processes, including a complexity of species, communities, gene pools, and ecological function.

**Board Foot (BF)** - A unit of solid wood that is one foot square and one inch thick.

**Candidate Species** - Those plants and animals included in Federal Register “Notices of Review” that are being considered by the Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for listing as threatened or endangered. There are two categories that are of primary concern to BLM. These are:

Category 1. Taxa for which the USFWS has substantial information on hand to support proposing the species for listing as threatened or endangered. Listing proposals are either being prepared or have been delayed by higher priority listing work.

**Commercial Thinning (CT)** - The removal of merchantable trees from an even-aged stand to encourage growth of the remaining trees.

**Connectivity/Diversity blocks** - Connectivity/Diversity blocks are specific lands spaced throughout the Matrix lands, which have similar goals as Matrix but have specific Standards & Guidelines which affect their timber production. They are managed on longer rotations (150 years), retain more green trees following regeneration harvest (12-18) and must maintain 25-30 percent of the block in late successional forest.



**Coos Bay Wagon Road (CBWR) Lands** - Public lands granted to the Southern Oregon Company and subsequently reconveyed to the United States.

**Cubic Foot** - A unit of solid wood that is one foot square and one foot thick.

**Cumulative Effect** - The impact that results from identified actions when they are added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of who undertakes such other actions. Cumulative effects can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

**Density Management (DM or DMT)**- Cutting of trees for the primary purpose of widening their spacing so that growth of remaining trees can be accelerated. Density management harvest can also be used to improve forest health, open the forest canopy, or accelerate the attainment of old growth characteristics if maintenance or restoration of biological diversity is the objective.

**District Defined Reserves** - Areas designated for the protection of specific resources, flora, fauna, and other values. These areas are not included in other land use allocations nor in the calculation of the ASQ.

**Endangered Species** - Any species defined through the Endangered Species Act as being in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range and published in the Federal Register.

**Environmental Assessment (EA)** - A systematic analysis of site-specific BLM activities used to determine whether such activities have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment and whether a formal environmental impact statement is required and also to aid an agency's compliance with NEPA when no EIS is necessary.

**Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)** - A formal document to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency and that considers significant environmental impacts expected from implementation of a major federal action.

**Extensive Recreation Management Areas (ERMAs)** - All BLM-administered lands outside Special Recreation Management Areas. These areas may include developed and primitive recreation sites with minimal facilities.

**General Forest Management Area (GFMA)** - Forest land managed on a regeneration harvest cycle of 70-110 years. A biological legacy of six to eight green trees per acre would be retained to assure forest health. Commercial thinning would be applied where practicable and where research indicates there would be gains in timber production.

**Green Tree Retention** - A stand management practice in which live trees—as well as snags and large down wood—are left as biological legacies within harvest units to provide habitat components over the next management cycle.



**Harvested Volume or Harvested Acres** - Refers to timber sales where trees are cut and taken to a mill during the fiscal year. Typically, this volume was sold over several years. This is more indicative of actual support for local economies during a given year.

**Hazardous Materials** - Anything that poses a substantive present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of, or otherwise managed.

**Land Use Allocations (LUA)** - Allocations that define allowable uses/activities, restricted uses/activities, and prohibited uses/activities. They may be expressed in terms of area such as acres or miles. Each allocation is associated with a specific management objective.

**Late-Successional Forests** - Forest seral stages that include mature and old-growth age classes, 80 years and older.

**Late-Successional Reserve (LSR)** - A forest in its mature and/or old-growth stages that has been reserved.

**Matrix Lands** - Federal land outside of reserves and special management areas that will be available for timber harvest at varying levels.

**Noxious Plant/Weed** - A plant specified by law as being especially undesirable, troublesome, and difficult to control.

**O&C Lands** - Public lands granted to the Oregon and California Railroad Company and subsequently revested to the United States, that are managed by the BLM under the authority of the O&C Lands Act.

**Offered (sold) Volume or Offered (sold) Acres** - Any timber sold during the year by auction or negotiated sales, including modifications to contracts. This is more of a “pulse” check on the district’s success in meeting ASQ goals than it is a socioeconomic indicator, since the volume can get to market over a period of several years. It should be noted that for this APS we are considering “offered” the same as “sold”. Occasionally sales do not sell. They may be reworked and sold later or dropped from the timber sale program. Those sold later will be picked up in the APS tracking process for the year sold. Those dropped will not be tracked in the APS process.

**Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV)** - Any motorized track or wheeled vehicle designed for cross country travel over natural terrain. (The term “Off-Highway Vehicle” is used in place of the term “Off-Road Vehicle” to comply with the purposes of Executive Orders 11644 and 11989. The definition for both terms is the same.)

#### **Off-Highway Vehicle Designation**

**Open:** Designated areas and trails where off-highway vehicles may be operated subject to operating regulations and vehicle standards set forth in BLM Manuals 8341 and 8343.



**Limited:** Designated areas and trails where off-highway vehicles are subject to restrictions limiting the number or types of vehicles, date, and time of use; limited to existing or designated roads and trails.

**Closed:** Areas and trails where the use of off-highway vehicles is permanently or temporarily prohibited. Emergency use is allowed.

**Plantation Maintenance** - Actions in an unestablished forest stand to promote the survival of desired crop trees.

**Plantation Release** - All activities associated with promoting the dominance and/or growth of desired tree species within an established forest stand.

**Pre-commercial Thinning (PCT)**- The practice of removing some of the trees less than merchantable size from a stand so that remaining trees will grow faster.

**Prescribed Fire** - A fire burning under specified conditions to accomplish certain planned objectives.

**“Projected Acres”** - are displayed by modeled age class for the decade. These “modeled” age class acres are estimates derived from modeling various silvicultural prescriptions for regeneration, commercial thinning, and density management harvest. Modeled age class acre projections may or may not correspond to “Offered” or “Harvested” age class acres at this point in the decade. Additional age classes are scheduled for regeneration, commercial thinning, or density management harvest at other points in the decade.

**Public Domain Lands (PD)** - Original holdings of the United States never granted or conveyed to other jurisdictions, or reacquired by exchange for other public domain lands.

**Regeneration Harvest (RH)** - Timber harvest conducted with the partial objective of opening a forest stand to the point where favored tree species will be re-established.

**Regional Ecosystem Office (REO)** - The main function of this office is to provide staff work and support to the Regional Interagency Executive Committee so the standards and guidelines in the forest management plan can be successfully implemented.

**Research Natural Area (RNA)** - An area that contains natural resource values of scientific interest and is managed primarily for research and educational purposes.

**Resource Management Plan (RMP)** - A land use plan prepared by the BLM under current regulations in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

**Right-of-Way (R/W)** - A permit or an easement that authorizes the use of public lands for specified purposes, such as pipelines, roads, telephone lines, electric lines, reservoirs, and the lands covered by such an easement or permit.



**Rural Interface Areas (RIA)** - Areas where BLM-administered lands are adjacent to or intermingled with privately-owned lands zoned for 1- to 20-acre lots, or areas that already have residential development.

**Seral Stages** - The series of relatively transitory plant communities that develop during ecological succession from bare ground to the climax stage. There are five stages:

**Early Seral Stage:** The period in the life of a forest stand from crown closure to ages 15-40. Due to stand density, the brush, grass, or herbs rapidly decrease in the stand. Hiding cover may be present.

**Mid Seral Stage:** The period in the life of a forest stand from crown closure to first merchantability. Usually ages 15 through 40. Due to stand density, the brush, grass, or herbs rapidly decrease in the stand. Hiding cover is usually present.

**Late Seral Stage:** The period in the life of a forest stand from first merchantability to culmination of mean annual increment. Usually ages 40 to 100 years of age. Forest stands are dominated by conifers or hardwoods; canopy closure often approaches 100 percent. During this period, stand diversity is minimal, except that conifer mortality rates and snag formation will be fairly rapid. Big game hiding and thermal cover is present. Forage is minimal except in understocked stands.

**Mature Seral Stage:** The period in the life of a forest stand from culmination of mean annual increment to an old-growth stage or to 200 years. Conifer and hardwood growth gradually decline, and larger trees increase significantly in size. This is a time of gradually increasing stand diversity. Understory development increases in response to openings in the canopy from disease, insects, and windthrow. Vertical diversity increases. Larger snags are formed. Big game hiding cover, thermal cover, and some forage are present.

**Old-Growth:** This stage constitutes the potential plant community capable of existing on a site given the frequency of natural disturbance events. For forest communities, this stage exists from approximately age 200 until the time when stand replacement occurs and secondary succession begins again. Depending on fire frequency and intensity, old-growth forests may have different structures, species composition, and age distributions. In forests with longer periods between natural disturbance, the forest structure will be more even-aged at late mature or early old growth stages.

As mortality occurs, stands develop greater structural complexity. Replacement of trees lost to fire, windthrow, or insects results in the creation of a multi-layered canopy. There may be a shift toward more shade-tolerant species. Big game hiding cover, thermal cover, and forage is present.

**Silvicultural Prescription** - A professional plan for controlling the establishment, composition, constitution, and growth of forests.



**Site Preparation** - Any action taken in conjunction with a reforestation effort (natural or artificial) to create an environment that is favorable for survival of suitable trees during the first growing season. This environment can be created by altering ground cover, soil, or microsite conditions through using biological, mechanical, or manual clearing, prescribed burns, herbicides, or a combination of methods.

**Special Forest Products (SFP)** - Firewood, shake bolts, mushrooms, ferns, floral greens, berries, mosses, bark, grasses, and other forest material that could be harvested in accordance with the objectives and guidelines in the proposed resource management plan.

**Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA)** - An area where a commitment has been made to provide specific recreation activity and experience opportunities. These areas usually require a high level of recreation investment and/or management. They include recreation sites, but recreation sites alone do not constitute SRMAs.

**SEIS Special Attention Species** - a term which incorporates the "Survey and Manage" and "Protection Buffer" species from the Northwest Forest Plan. (RMP32).

**Special Status Species** - Plant or animal species falling in any of the following categories:

- Threatened or Endangered Species
- Proposed Threatened or Endangered Species
- Candidate Species
- State Listed Species
- Bureau Sensitive Species
- Bureau Assessment Species
- Bureau Tracking Species and Species of Concern

**Visual Resource Management (VRM)** - The inventory and planning actions to identify visual values and establish objectives for managing those values and the management actions to achieve visual management objectives.



## Acronyms/Abbreviations

ACEC	-	Area of Critical Environmental Concern
ACS	-	Aquatic Conservation Strategy
APS	-	Annual Program Summary
ASQ	-	Allowable Sale Quantity
BA	-	Biological Assessment
BIA	-	Bureau of Indian Affairs
BLM	-	Bureau of Land Management
BMP	-	Best Management Practice
CBWR	-	Coos Bay Wagon Road
CCF	-	Hundred cubic feet
C/DB	-	Connectivity/Diversity Blocks
CIT	-	Coquille Indian Tribe
COE	-	US Army Corps of Engineers
CT	-	Commercial Thinning
CWA	-	Clean Water Act
CWD	-	Coarse woody debris
CX	-	Categorical Exclusions
DBH	-	Diameter Breast Height
DEQ	-	Department of Environmental Quality
DM / DMT	-	Density Management
EA	-	Environmental Analysis
EIS	-	Environmental Impact Statement
ERFO	-	Emergency Relief Federally Owned
ERMA	-	Extensive Recreation Management Areas
ESA	-	Endangered Species Act
ESU	-	Evolutionarily Significant Unit
FEIS	-	Final Environmental Impact Statement
FONSI	-	Finding of No Significant Impacts
FY	-	Fiscal Year
GFMA	-	General Forest Management Area
GIS	-	Geographic Information System
GPS	-	Global Positioning System
IDT	-	Interdisciplinary Teams
ISMS	-	Interagency Species Management System
JITW	-	Jobs-in-the-Woods
LSR	-	Late-Successional Reserve
LUA	-	Land Use Allocation
LWD	-	Large woody debris
MBF	-	Thousand board feet
MFO	-	Myrtlewood Field Office
MMBF	-	Million board feet
MOU	-	Memorandum of Understanding
NEPA	-	National Environmental Policy Act
NFP	-	Northwest Forest Plan



NHS	- National Historic Site
NRDA	- Natural Resource Damage Assessment
NOAA	- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
OCEAN	- Oregon Coastal Environment Awareness Network
O&C	- Oregon and California Revested Lands
ODFW	- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
ODOT	- Oregon Department of Transportation
OSU	- Oregon State University
PAC(s)	- Provincial Advisory Committee(s)
PD	- Public Domain Lands
PIMT	- Provincial Implementation Monitoring Team
PL	- Public Law
POC	- Port-Orford-Cedar
R&PP	- Recreation and Public Purpose
REO	- Regional Ecosystem Office
RH	- Regeneration Harvest
RIEC	- Regional Interagency Executive Committee
RMP	- Resource Management Plan
RMP/ROD	- The <i>Coos Bay District Resource Management Plan</i> and <i>Record of Decision</i>
ROD	- Record of Decision
RR	- Riparian Reserve
R/W	- Right-of-Way
SEIS	- Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement
S&M	- Survey and Manage
SRMA	- Special Recreation Management Areas
TMO	- Timber Management Objective(s)
TNC	- The Nature Conservancy
UFO	- Umpqua Field Office
USFS	- U.S. Forest Service
USFWS	- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	- U.S. Geologic Service
WQMP	- Water Quality Management Plan



## Appendix A

### Coos Bay District Watershed Analysis Summary

(Reported acres are for Coos Bay District only. Some analyzes included additional acres on other BLM Districts. <sup>1)</sup>)

Name	Iteration	BLM Acres on Coos Bay District	Non-BLM Acres	Total Acres	Square Miles	Percent BLM	BLM acres: Running total of first iteration accomplishment	Percent of Coos Bay District covered by a first iteration WSA based the following total BLM acres: 321,746
FY 94								
Lower Umpqua Frontal	1 <sup>st</sup>	13,826	26,088	39,914	62	35%		
Middle Fork Coquille	1 <sup>st</sup>	42,773	101,145	143,918	225	30%		
Total FY 94		56,599	127,233	183,832	287	31%	56,599	18%
FY 95								
Sandy Creek <sup>2</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	5,943	6,785	12,728	20	47%		
Smith River <sup>3</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2,826	1,853	4,679	7	60%		
Paradise Creek	1 <sup>st</sup>	6,648	5,590	12,238	19	54%		
Middle Creek	1 <sup>st</sup>	19,393	13,063	32,456	51	60%		
North Coquille <sup>4</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	7,544	20,275	27,819	43	27%		
Fairview <sup>5</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	6,725	12,533	19,258	30	35%		
Middle Umpqua Frontal <sup>6</sup> (Waggoner Ck Drainage)	1 <sup>st</sup>	1,050	2,335	3,385	5	31%		
Total FY 95 (includes 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> iteration acres)		49,079	60,099	109,178	171	45%		
FY 1 <sup>st</sup> iteration only		44,186	55,649	99,835	156	44%	100,785	31%
FY 96								
Sandy Remote <sup>7</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> / 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10,374	13,620	23,994	37	43%		
Middle Smith River	1 <sup>st</sup>	22,400	29,909	52,309	82	43%		
Mill Creek	1 <sup>st</sup>	24,506	60,653	85,159	133	29%		
Oxbow	1 <sup>st</sup>	23,463	17,956	41,419	65	57%		
Lower South Fork Coquille	1 <sup>st</sup>	7,353	48,716	56,069	88	13%		
West Fork Smith River	1 <sup>st</sup>	11,121	5,200	16,321	26	68%		
Tioga Creek <sup>8</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	15,788	8,866	24,654	39	64%		

<sup>1</sup> Some acre figures in this table are different from those reported in previous years. Large changes are the result of excluding those acres covered by our watershed documents that are outside the Coos Bay District boundary. Small changes are attributable to differences in sort criteria used to obtain these acres using GIS.

<sup>2</sup> Sandy Creek Subwatershed is in the Middle Fork Coquille Watershed and is a more specific analysis at the subwatershed scale.

<sup>3</sup> Roseburg District BLM prepared the Smith River (covers Coos Bay's Lower Upper Smith Subwatershed) watershed analysis document. Only those acres on Coos Bay District are reported in this table.

<sup>4</sup> The hydrologic unit used in this document was based on the superceded analytical watershed GIS theme. Hudson Drainage was moved from the North Coquille Subwatershed to the Fairview Subwatershed when we corrected the subwatershed boundaries.

<sup>5</sup> See footnote 4

<sup>6</sup> Roseburg District BLM prepared this document

<sup>7</sup> The Sandy Remote Watershed Analysis covers the Sandy Creek and Remote Subwatersheds. They are both parts of the Middle Fork Coquille Watershed, which was analyzed at the watershed scale in a FY 1994 document. The Sandy Remote Watershed Analysis is a more specific analysis at the subwatershed scale.

<sup>8</sup> Replaced by the FY 2000 version of the South Fork Coos Watershed Analysis.



Name	Iteration	BLM Acres on Coos Bay District	Non-BLM Acres	Total Acres	Square Miles	Percent BLM	BLM acres: Running total of first iteration accomplishment	Percent of Coos Bay District covered by a first iteration WSA based the following total BLM acres: 321,746
Total FY 96 (includes 1st, 2 <sup>nd</sup> / 3 <sup>rd</sup> iteration acres)		115,005	184,920	299,925	469	38%		
FY 1 <sup>st</sup> iteration only		104,631	171,300	275,931	431	38%	205,416	64%
FY 97								
Big Creek <sup>9</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	10,083	6,586	16,669	26	60%		
Smith River <sup>10</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> it. ac.	33,519	35,875	69,394	108	48%		
(North Smith)	1 <sup>st</sup> it. ac.	3,694	68,210	71,904	112	5%		
Upper Middle Umpqua	1 <sup>st</sup>	7,235	22,206	29,441	46	25%		
Middle Main Coquille/ No. Fk. Mouth/ Catching Ck.	1 <sup>st</sup>	5,728	83,858	89,586	140	6%		
North Fork Chetco	1 <sup>st</sup>	9,263	16,299	25,562	40	36%		
Total FY 97 (1 <sup>st</sup> plus subsequent iteration acres)		69,522	233,034	302,556	473	23%		
FY 97 1 <sup>st</sup> iteration acres only		25,920	190,573	216,493	338	12%	231,336	72%
FY 98								
Middle Umpqua Frontal <sup>11</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	22,634	40,505	63,139	99	36%		
Lower Umpqua <sup>12</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	1,548	58,688	60,236	94	3%		
Hunter Creek <sup>13</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	3,564	24,609	28,173	44	13%		
Total FY 98 (1 <sup>st</sup> plus subsequent iteration acres)		27,746	123,802	151,548	237	18%		
FY 98 1 <sup>st</sup> iteration only acres		5,112	83,297	88,409	138	6%	236,448	73%
FY 99								
South Fork Coos River	2 <sup>nd</sup> it. ac.	15,788	8,866	24,654	39	64%		
	1 <sup>st</sup> it. ac.	16,047	117,371	133,418	208	12%		
East Fork Coquille	1 <sup>st</sup>	45,636	38,369	84,005	131	54%		
Lobster Creek <sup>14</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	1,402	42,723	44,125	69	3%		
Total FY 99 (1 <sup>st</sup> plus subsequent iteration acres)		78,873	207,329	286,202	447	28%		
FY 99 1 <sup>st</sup> iteration only acres		63,085	198,463	261,548	409	24%	299,533	93%
FY 2000								
South Fork Coos River <sup>15</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	31,835	126,237	158,072	247	20%		

<sup>9</sup> Big Creek Subwatershed is in the Middle Fork Coquille Watershed and is a more specific analysis at the subwatershed scale.

<sup>10</sup> The Siuslaw National Forest prepared the North Smith Watershed Analysis document. The document was prepared at the watershed scale and encompasses some areas previously covered by the Coos Bay District at the subwatershed scale. Only acres within the Coos Bay District boundaries are shown in the table.

<sup>11</sup> This 2<sup>nd</sup> iteration document addresses management activities and the attainment of the Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives in the Middle Umpqua Frontal Watershed. The 1<sup>st</sup> iteration documents covering this assessment are the 1994 Lower Umpqua Frontal, the 1995 Paradise Creek, and the western part of the 1997 Upper Middle Umpqua watershed analyses.

<sup>12</sup> The Siuslaw National Forest prepared the Lower Umpqua Watershed Analysis (Lower Umpqua Frontal) with input from the Coos Bay BLM office.

<sup>13</sup> The Siskiyou National Forest contracted with Engineering Science and Technology to prepare the Hunter Creek Watershed Analysis. Coos Bay BLM Office input and information used to prepare the document.

<sup>14</sup> The Siskiyou National Forest will do this analysis with BLM input.

<sup>15</sup> Listed as version 1.2. Replaces the FY 1996 Tioga Creek and the FY 99 South Fork Coos River documents



Name	Iteration	BLM Acres on Coos Bay District	Non-BLM Acres	Total Acres	Square Miles	Percent BLM	BLM acres: Running total of first iteration accomplishment	Percent of Coos Bay District covered by a first iteration WSA based the following total BLM acres: 321,746
Total FY 2000 (1 <sup>st</sup> plus subsequent iteration acres)		31,835	126,237	158,072	247	20%		
FY 2000 1 <sup>st</sup> iteration only acres		0	0	0	0	0%	299,533	93%
FY 2001								
North Fork Coquille <sup>16</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	36,861	61,606	98,467	154	37%		
South Fork Coos River <sup>17</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	31,835	126,237	158,072	247	20%		
Total planned for FY 2001 (1 <sup>st</sup> plus subsequent iteration acres)		68,696	187,843	256,539	401	27%		
FY 01 1 <sup>st</sup> iteration only acres		0	0	0	0	0%	299,533	93%
FY 2002								
Oxbow <sup>18</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	23,463	17,956	41,419	65	57%		
Upper Umpqua <sup>19</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	6,396	19,511	25,907	40	25%		
Total planned for FY 2002 (1 <sup>st</sup> plus subsequent iteration acres)		29,859	37,467	67,326	105	44%		
FY 2002 1 <sup>st</sup> iteration only acres		0	0	0	0	0%	299,533	93%
FY 2003								
Middle Umpqua River <sup>20</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	22,626	40,513	63,139	99	36%		
Total planned for FY 2003 (1 <sup>st</sup> plus subsequent iteration acres)		22,626	40,513	63,139	99	36%		
FY 03 1 <sup>st</sup> iteration only acres		0	0	0	0	0%	299,533	93%
Planned FY 2004								
Mill Creek <sup>21</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	24,800	61,100	85,900	134	29%		
Total planned for FY 2004 (1 <sup>st</sup> plus subsequent iteration acres)		24,800	61,100	85,900	134	29%		
1 <sup>st</sup> iteration only acres planned for FY 04		0	0	0	0	0%	299,533	93%

<sup>16</sup> Replaces the FY 1994 Middle Creek, North Coquille, and Fairview documents. Also replaces the North Fork Mouth Subwatershed portion of the FY 1997 Middle Main Coquille/ North Fork Mouth/ Catching Creek document

<sup>17</sup> Replaces the FY 1996 Tioga Creek, and the FY 99 and FY 00 South Fork Coos River documents

<sup>18</sup> Replaces the FY 1996 Oxbow document.

<sup>19</sup> The Roseburg District BLM will do this analysis with Coos Bay District input

<sup>20</sup> Replaces the FY 1994 Lower Umpqua Frontal (Middle Umpqua Frontal), FY 1995 Paradise Creek, and a portion of the FY 1997 Upper Middle Umpqua documents.

<sup>21</sup> Replaces the FY 1996 Mill Creek document.



## **Appendix B**

### **Comparisons Between ROD Commitments and Actual Harvest**

Table B-1 displays the anticipated acres and volume to be harvested from the Matrix LUA by age class, either by regeneration harvest and/or commercial thinning and selective cut/salvage, as well as the accomplishments for FY 95 to FY 2003. Only conifer volume harvested from the Matrix counts toward the ASQ volume commitment. It was recognized that density management treatments within the Riparian Reserves (RR) or Late-Successional Reserves (LSR) would occur to provide habitat conditions for late-successional species, or to develop desired structural components meeting the Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives. It was estimated that approximately 5 MMBF could be harvested from these LUAs annually. Volume harvested from the RR or LSR LUAs does not contribute to the ASQ.

It should be noted that in most FYs, road construction occurred in areas of 30 to 50 year age classes. Harvest associated with road construction is shown as a regeneration harvest. In FY 03 hardwood stand conversion occurred in the 40-49 year age class in both the Matrix, LSR, and RRs, and is included as a regeneration harvest. This results in displaying harvest acres, with little coniferous volume associated with the harvested acres. In FYs 97 and 2000 commercial thinning of progeny test sites occurred in stands in the 20-29 age class. This activity is in a younger age class than we anticipated in preparing the decadal commitment.

Figure B-1 compares the ROD modeled age class distribution for the first decade with the actual harvested age class for the FY 95 to FY 2003 period. Figures B-2 and B-3 display the regeneration harvest and partial harvest acres by 10 year age class and Land Use Allocation for FY 95 to 2003. As mentioned above, some road construction and stand conversion occurred in the 30, 40, and 50 year age classes, and are shown as regeneration harvest in Figure B-2.



Table B-1. ROD Harvest Commitments and Annual Accomplishments (Acres and MMBF by Age Class)															
	ROD Decadal Commitment				Accomplishment FY 2003				Accomplishments FY 95 to FY 2003						
Age Class	LUA	Regeneration Harvest		Thinning		LUA	Regeneration Harvest		Thinning/Selective Cut		LUA	Regeneration Harvest		Thinning/Selective Cut	
		Acres	Volume <sup>1</sup>	Acres	Volume <sup>1</sup>		Acres	Volume <sup>1</sup>	Acres	Volume <sup>1</sup>		Acres	Volume <sup>1</sup>	Acres	Volume <sup>1</sup>
20-29	GFMA <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	0	GFMA	0	0	0	0	GFMA	0	0	27	0.050
	C/DB	0	0	0	0	C/DB	0	0	0	0	C/DB	1	0.002	36	0.115
						RR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	0	RR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	9	0.048
						LSR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	0	LSR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	114	0.457
	Sub-total	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0		1	0.002	186	0.670
30-39	GFMA <sup>2</sup>	0	0	2,600	20.7	GFMA	0	0	88	0.558	GFMA	44	0.392	997	7.538
	C/DB	0	0	0	0	C/DB	0	0	0	0	C/DB	0	0	0	0
						RR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	41	0.285	RR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	248	1.719
						LSR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	0	LSR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	150	1.458
	Sub-total	0	0	2,600	20.7		0	0	129	0.843		44	0.392	1,395	10.715
40-49	GFMA <sup>2</sup>	0	0	1,400	10.1	GFMA	8	0	58	0.450	GFMA	70	0.661	1,621	17.568
	C/DB	0	0	0	0.4	C/DB	0	0	0	0	C/DB	0	0	0	0
						RR <sup>3</sup>	26	0	129	1.029	RR <sup>3</sup>	26	0	647	6.791
						LSR <sup>3</sup>	33	0.402	1,099	15.613	LSR <sup>3</sup>	33	0.402	1,313	18.298
	Sub-total	0	0	1,400	10.5		67	0.402	1,286	17.092		129	1.063	3,581	42.657
50-59	GFMA <sup>2</sup>	200	1.5	1,700	12.3	GFMA	0	0	0	0	GFMA	27	0.697	1,161	18.146
	C/DB	0	0	100	0.6	C/DB	0	0	0	0	C/DB	0	0	0	0
						RR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	0	RR <sup>3</sup>	10	0.190	478	6.171
						LSR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	0	LSR <sup>3</sup>	9	0.419	162	1.323
	Sub-total	200	1.5	1,800	12.9		0	0	0	0		46	1.306	1,801	25.640
60-79	GFMA <sup>2</sup>	400	10.7	150	1.3	GFMA	0	0	0	0	GFMA	240	11.287	89	1.099
	C/DB	100	2.1	150	2.6	C/DB	0	0	0	0	C/DB	0	0	0	0
						RR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	0	RR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	102	1.191
						LSR <sup>3</sup>	2	0.122	233	4.181	LSR <sup>3</sup>	2	0.122	233	4.181
	Sub-total	500	12.8	300	3.9		2	0.122	233	4.181		242	11.409	424	6.471



Table B-1. ROD Harvest Commitments and Annual Accomplishments (Continued)

Age Class	ROD Decadal Commitment				Accomplishment FY 2003				Accomplishments FY 95 to FY 2003			
	Regeneration Harvest		Thinning		Regeneration Harvest		Thinning/Selective Cut		Regeneration Harvest		Thinning/Selective Cut	
	LUA	Acres	Volume <sup>1</sup>	Acres	LUA	Acres	Volume <sup>1</sup>	Acres	LUA	Acres	Volume <sup>1</sup>	Acres
80-99	GFMA	300	11.4	0	GFMA	0	0	0	GFMA	183	11.472	15
	C/DB	100	3.7	0	C/DB	0	0	0	C/DB	13	0	0
					RR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	RR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0
					LSR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	LSR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0
	Sub-total	400	15.1	0		0	0	0		196	11.472	15
100-199	GFMA <sup>2</sup>	3,700	190.4	0	GFMA	0	0	0	GFMA	1,408	66.675	0
	C/DB	100	3.1	0	C/DB	0	0	0	C/DB	33	1.702	0
					RR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	RR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	2
					LSR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	LSR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0
	Sub-total	3,800	193.5	0		0	0	0		1,441	68.377	2
200 +	GFMA <sup>2</sup>	900	50.1	0	GFMA	0	0	0	GFMA	297	19.023	0
	C/DB	0	0	0	C/DB	0	0	0	C/DB	0	0	0
					RR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	RR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0
					LSR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	LSR <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0
	Sub-total	900	50.1	0		0	0	0		297	19.023	0
Totals	GFMA	5,500	264.1	5,850	GFMA	8	0	146	GFMA	2,269	110.207	3,910
	C/DB	300	8.9	250	C/DB	0	0	0	C/DB	47	1.704	36
					RR <sup>3</sup>	26	0	170	RR <sup>3</sup>	36	0.190	1,486
					LSR <sup>3</sup>	35	0.524	1,332	LSR <sup>3</sup>	44	0.943	1,972
ASQ Totals		5,800	273.0	6,100		8	0	146		2,316	111.911	3,946
Non ASQ Totals		0	0	0		61	0.524	1,502		80	1.133	3,458
Grand Totals		5,800	273.0	6,100		69	0.524	1,648		2,396	113.044	7,404

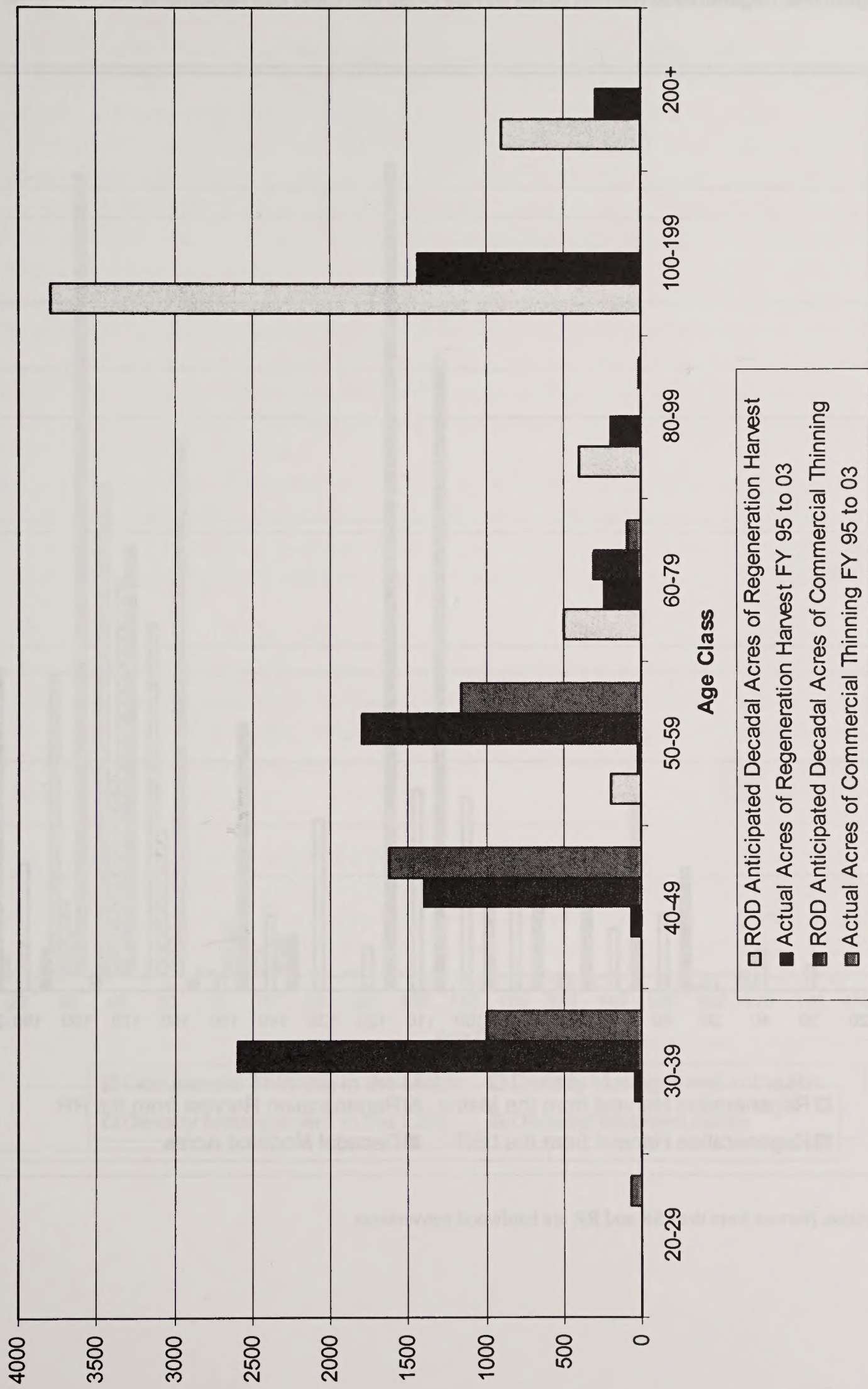
<sup>1</sup> Only coniferous volume from the Matrix contributes to the ASQ. Includes only advertised sales. Does not include hardwood or miscellaneous volume harvested. Table has been updated with corrections.

<sup>2</sup> ROD commitment is for the Matrix only; Matrix includes both the General Forest Management Area (GFMA) and Connectivity/Diversity Blocks (C/DB).

<sup>3</sup> No ROD commitment for the Riparian Reserves (RR) or Late-Successional Reserves (LSR) – Opportunity to treat where treatments meet the Objectives for these LUAs

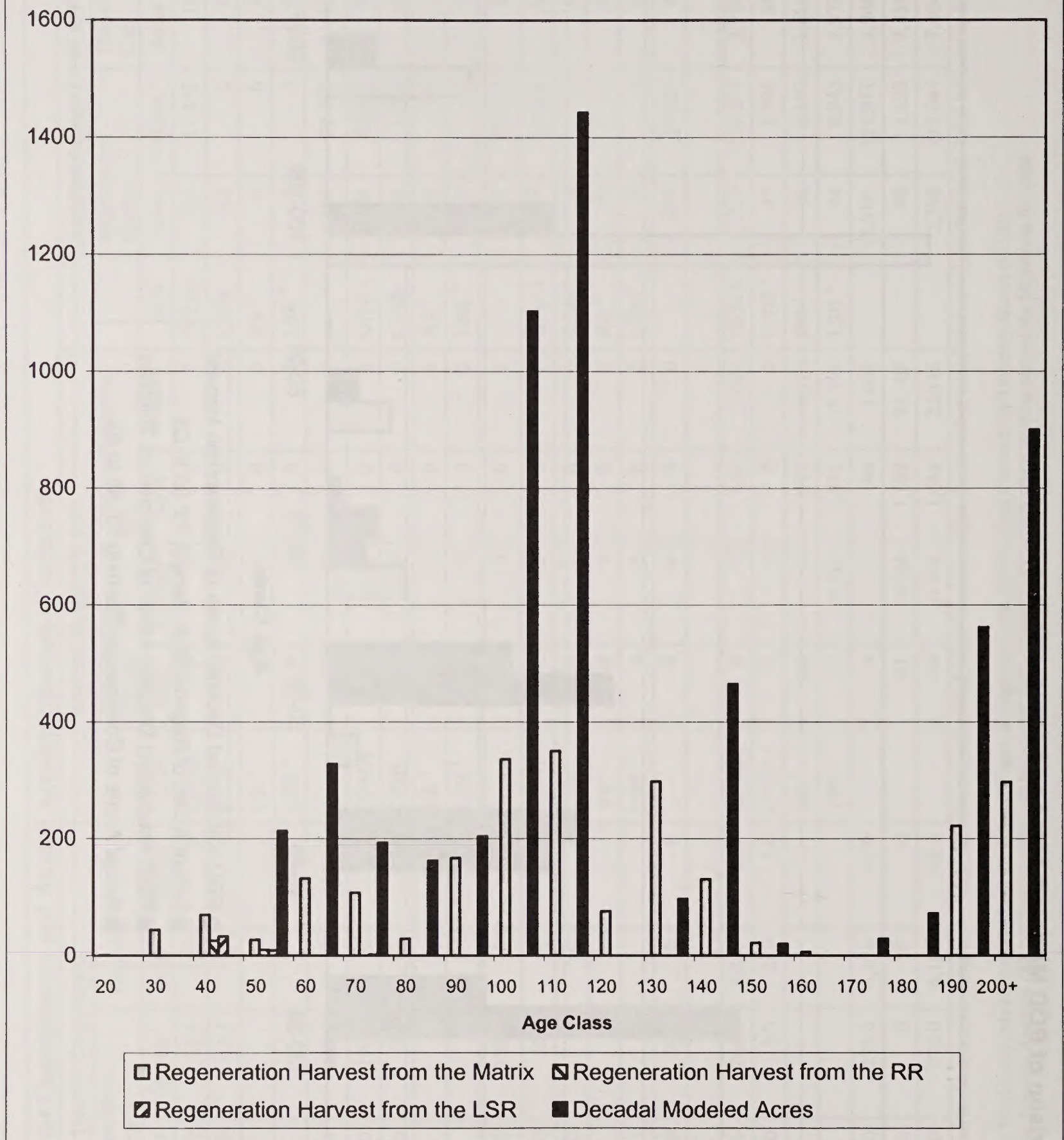


**Figure B-1. Comparison of ROD Modeled Acres and Actual Harvest Acres**





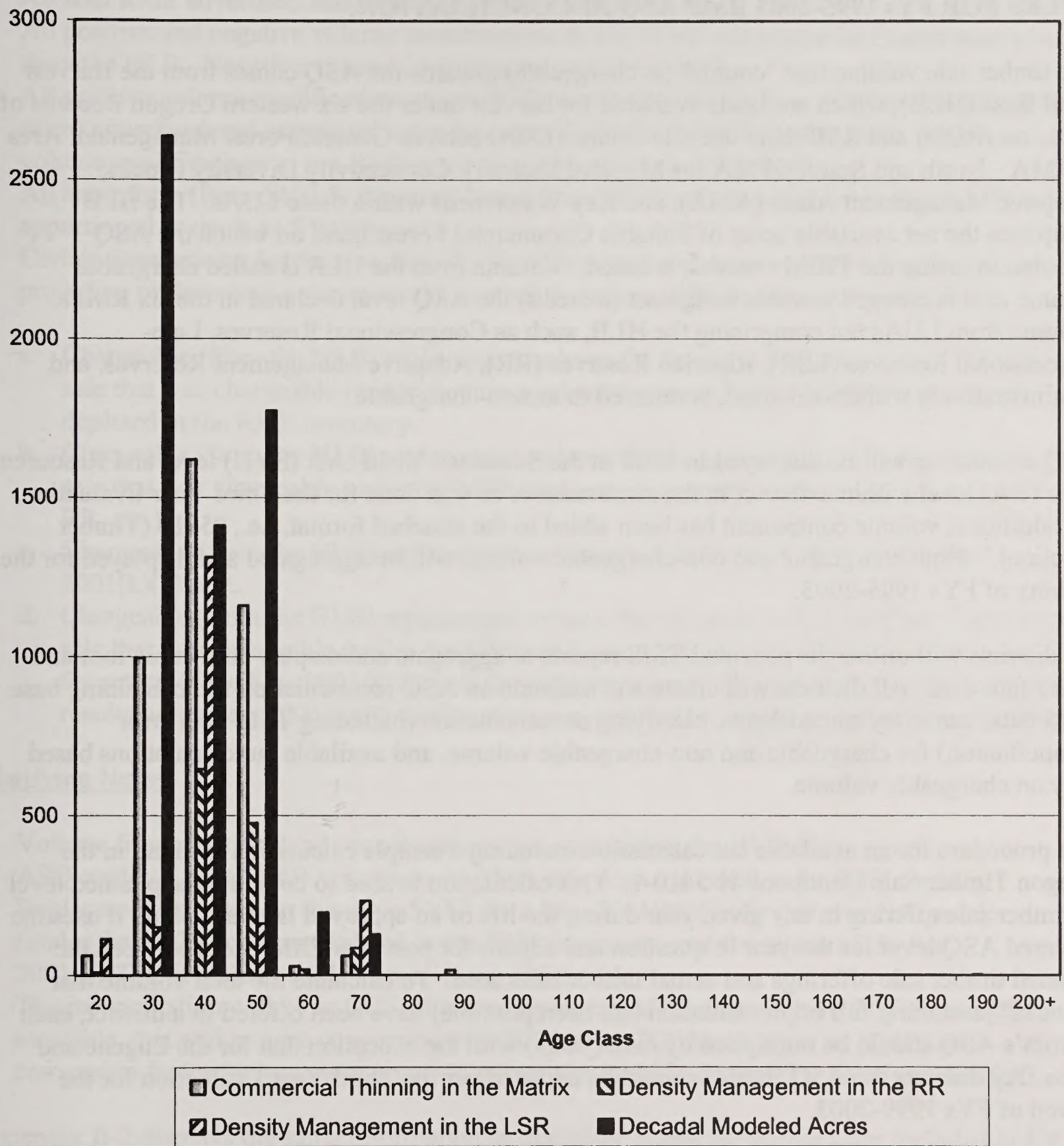
**Figure B-2. Regeneration Harvest Acres by Age Class and Land Use Allocations**



\*\* Regeneration Harvest from the LSR and RR are hardwood conversions



**Figure B-3. Partial Harvest Acres by Age Class and Land Use Allocations**





## **Appendix B-1**

### **Allowable Sale Quantity Reconciliation**

#### **RULES FOR FYs 1995-2003 RMP ASQ RECONCILIATION:**

The timber sale volume that “counts” (is chargeable) towards the ASQ comes from the Harvest Land Base (HLB), which are lands available for harvest under the six western Oregon Records of Decision (ROD) and RMP land use allocations (LUA) such as General Forest Management Area (GFMA - North and South GFMA for Medford District), Connectivity Diversity Blocks, Adaptive Management Areas (AMA), and Key Watersheds within these LUAs. The HLB comprises the net available acres of Suitable Commercial Forest Land on which the ASQ calculation, using the TRIM+ model, is based. Volume from the HLB is called chargeable volume as it is charged towards or against (a credit) the ASQ level declared in the six RMPs. Volume from LUAs not comprising the HLB, such as Congressional Reserves, Late-Successional Reserves (LSR), Riparian Reserves (RR), Adaptive Management Reserves, and administratively withdrawn areas, is referred to as non-chargeable.

ASQ accounting will be displayed in MBF at the Sustained Yield Unit (SYU) level and Resource Area (RA) level within a district in the same manner as was done for the Third Year Evaluation. An additional volume component has been added to the attached format, i.e., “5810 (Timber Pipeline).” Both chargeable and non-chargeable volume will be aggregated and displayed for the entirety of FYs 1995-2003.

All districts will utilize the provided TSIS reports to aggregate and display both cubic foot and board foot data. All districts will create and maintain an ASQ reconciliation file containing base TSIS data, summary spreadsheets, clarifying documentation (including TSIS data error reconciliation) for chargeable and non-chargeable volume, and available cut calculations based only on chargeable volume.

The procedure for an available cut calculation including a sample calculation is found in the Oregon Timber Sale Handbook H-5410-1. This calculation is used to compute the planned level of timber sale offering in any given year during the life of an approved land use plan. It uses the declared ASQ level for the year in question and adjusts for past year differences between the planned timber sale offerings and actual timber sales sold. To calculate the total volume that “should” (assuming full implementation had been possible) have been offered in a district, each district’s ASQ should be multiplied by nine (years) with the exception that for the Eugene and Coos Bay districts the ASQ figures should be adjusted per the Third Year Evaluation for the period of FYs 1999-2003.



The following timber volume sold in FYs 1995-2003 will be chargeable towards ASQ accomplishment and available cut calculations:

1. All sold RMP advertised and negotiated sales from the HLB.
2. All positive and negative volume modifications to sold RMP advertised and negotiated sales from the HLB. Negative volume modifications will be a debit.
3. All positive volume modifications to pre-RMP (including Rescissions Act Section 2001(k)(1) sales) advertised and negotiated sales from the HLB. Post-RMP approval date negative volume modifications to pre-RMP sales do not count as an ASQ debit.
4. All short form (form 5450-5) thousand board foot (MBF) and hundred cubic foot (CCF) sales apportioned to the RAs/SYUs by area.
5. Certain Rescissions Act Section 2001(k)(3) replacement volume as follows (meets the test of providing replacement volume results in a net depletion of HLB acres within an SYU):
  - a. Chargeable (from the HLB) replacement volume (in the same SYU) for a Sec. 2001(k)(2) sale that was chargeable (under the management framework plan (MFP)) and was not depleted in the RMP inventory.
  - b. Chargeable (from the HLB) replacement volume (in the same SYU) for a Sec. 2001(k)(2) sale that was chargeable under the MFP (and non-chargeable under the RMP, e.g., LSR, RR, etc.).
  - c. Chargeable (from the HLB) replacement volume in a different SYU from the Sec. 2001(k)(2) unit.
  - d. Chargeable (from the HLB) replacement volume (in the same SYU) for a Sec. 2001(k)(2) sale that was chargeable (under the MFP) and was depleted in the RMP inventory, and the return of the Sec. 2001(k)(2) unit does not increase HLB acres (e.g., nesting murrelets results in the Sec. 2001(k)(2) unit becoming a reserved Occupied Marbled Murrelet Site).

#### Clarifying Notes:

1. Volume from reserved land use allocations not comprising the HLB does not count as an ASQ credit. LSR and RR volume in an AMA sale does not count as an ASQ credit.
2. Replacement volume (in the same SYU) for a Sec. 2001(k)(2) sale that was chargeable (under the MFP) and was depleted in the RMP inventory, and the return of the Sec. 2001(k)(2) unit increases HLB acres, is not chargeable.
3. The reconciliation will be in CCF with accompanying MBF data. Where CCF figures are not available, this will require conversion of MBF data to CCF based upon an RMP-level conversion factor (unless more accurate sale or site-specific conversion data is available).

Appendix B-2 displays the same information as described above for timber sales included in FY 03.



## Appendix B-2: Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ) Reconciliation

Evaluation Period: FY95-03 <sup>3</sup>		Coos Bay District South Coast – Curry SYU					
		FY 2002		FY 2003		FY 95 thru 03	
		CCF	MBF	CCF	MBF	CCF	MBF
ASQ Volume **1	Advertised & Sold	9,014	4,676	1,881	1,018	253,536	157,538
	Negotiated	824	407	648	357	5,949	3,487
	Modification	555	308	988	514	13,032	7,503
	5450-5 (Short form)	335	200	1,096	592	3,358	1,948
Totals:		10,728	5,591	4,613	2,481	275,875	170,476
Autonomous Program Summaries **2	Rescission Act Replacement	0	0	0	0	25,584	16,589
	Key Watershed	5,701	2,966	1,660	867	36,573	22,012
	5900 (Salvage/Forest Health)	0	0	0	0	11	8
	5810 (Timber Pipeline)	2,887	1,540	1,354	740	5,356	2862
Planned Total ASQ for FY 1995 thru FY 2003						437,000 <sup>4</sup>	263,000 <sup>5</sup>
Planned ASQ for Key Watersheds for FY 1995 thru FY 2003						40,000 <sup>4</sup>	24,000 <sup>5</sup>
Non - ASQ Volume	Advertised & Sold	9,176	4,848	41,930	22,841	87,252	47,583
	Negotiated	1,020	638	425	230	4,253	2,472
	Modification	98	49	962	504	2,271	1,273
	5450-5 (Short form)	335	200	1,096	592	2,585	1,484
Totals:		10,629	5,735	44,413	24,167	96,361	52,812
Autonomous Program Summaries **2	Rescission Act Replacement	0	0	0	0	1,116	593
	Key Watershed	2,782	1,553	38,718	21,113	45,742	24,907
	5900 (Salvage/Forest Health)	48	32	30,997	16,683	31,113	16,767
	5810 (Timber Pipeline)	7,158	3,804	10,353	5,844	18,999	10,437
All Volume (ASQ + Non – ASQ)	Advertised & Sold	18,190	9,524	43,811	23,859	340,788	205,121
	Negotiated	1,844	1,045	1,073	587	10,202	5,959
	Modification	653	357	1,950	1,018	15,303	8,776
	5450-5 (Short form)	670	400	2,192	1,184	5,943	3,432
Grand Totals:		21,357	11,326	49,026	26,648	372,236	223,288
Autonomous Program Summaries **2	Rescission Act Replacement	0	0	0	0	26,700	17,182
	Key Watershed	8,483	4,519	40,378	21,980	82,315	46,919
	5900 (Salvage/Forest Health)	48	32	30,997	16,683	31,124	16,775
	5810 (Timber Pipeline)	10,045	5,344	11,707	6,584	24,355	13,299

\*\*1 Volume from the Harvest Land Base that “counts” (is chargeable) towards Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ) accomplishments.

\*\*2 Autonomous Program Summaries figures are for information purposes and are included in the ASQ and/or Non-ASQ figure respectively. Rescissions Act Replacement volume did not count towards annual sale offering targets.

<sup>3</sup> Volumes for FY95-01 can be found in Appendices B-1, 2002 Annual Program Summary for the BLM-Coos Bay District.

<sup>4</sup> CCF Volume for the period calculated as follows: Planned Total ASQ = (53,000 CCF X 4 yrs) + (45,000 CCF X 5 yrs)  
Key Watershed ASQ = (5,000 CCF X 4 yrs) + (4,000 CCF X 5 yrs)

<sup>5</sup> MBF Volume for the period calculated as follows: Planned Total ASQ = (32,000 MBF X 4 yrs) + (27,000 MBF X 5 yrs)  
Key Watershed ASQ = (3,000 MBF X 4 yrs) + (2,400 MBF X 5 yrs)



## Appendix C

### Implementation Monitoring for FY 2003

The following two lists of questions have been used to record the Coos Bay District Implementation Monitoring results for FY 2003. The first list, *2003 Project Specific RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions*, have been used for each of the 15 projects monitored. The summary for the 15 projects monitored in FY 2003 has been included in the previous section on Coos Bay implementation monitoring. The completed forms for individual projects are available for review at the District office.

The second list, *APS Related RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions*, includes answers to each of the questions.

In addition to the monitoring reported in this APS, other projects and/or programs are conducting monitoring activities as a part of project implementation.



# Coos Bay District

## 2003 Project Specific RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions

### Abbreviation legend:

NFP = Northwest Forest Plan  
RR = Riparian Reserve  
KW = Key Watershed  
MTX = matrix (including connectivity)

RMP = Resource Management Plan  
LSR = Late Successional Reserve  
AL = All land use allocations  
SM = Survey and Manage SEIS

NOTE: Each question begins with a parenthesis which identifies the areas where the question applies and ends with NFP, SM, or RMP page references.

Questions 73-113 are not project related, but appropriate for the Annual Program Summary. They are described in the Question.aps document.

Questions relating directly to S&Gs in either the NFP, SM, or RMP are rated against a set of answers as follows:

Meets S&G ☐ Doesn't Meet S&G ☐ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ☐ N/A ☐

Each question has four potential responses as to whether the project meets the standards and guidelines (note: some questions can only be answered met or not met).

**Met** the procedural or biological requirements of the S&G (e.g., the S&G calls for a minimum of 120 linear feet of logs per acre greater than 16 inches in diameter and 20 feet long and the project retained 320 linear feet of such logs, the project "met" the S&G).

**Not Met** the S&G (if, in the above example, 75 feet of such logs were retained - but it was possible to have retained 120 feet).

**Not Capable** of meeting the S&G (if, in the above example, 75 feet of such logs were retained - but the site did not have enough 16 inch logs to meet the S&G. Thus, the S&G was not met, but there was no way to meet it).

**Not Applicable** (for example, the S&G calls for 120 linear feet of logs per acre, but the project is located in a province or land allocation where the S&G does not apply).

Questions better answered by Yes / No, or relating to Documentation and Issues not directly related to specific S&Gs, but important to monitor are rated against the following:

Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐

This Set of questions applies to the following project:

**Project**



Q#	Question	Rating	Narrative Response
1.	(RR, KW) Was a watershed analysis completed before initiating actions in a Riparian Reserve or Key Watershed? (NFP B20) (RMP 7, 13)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
2.	(AL) Were the concerns identified in the watershed analysis addressed in the project EA? (NFP B20) (RMP 7, 13)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
3.	(AL) Were all streams & water bodies identified? (NFP C30-31) (RMP 12)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
4.	(AL) Were the stream boundaries established correctly? (NFP C30-31) (RMP 12)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
5.	(AL) Has the project reduced or maintained, the net amount of roads within the Key Watersheds? (NFP C7) (RMP 7, 70)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
6.	(RR) Were proposed activities within the RR clearly defined and stipulated in the project documentation?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
7.	(RR) Did documentation clearly show how the proposed activities meets or does not prevent attainment of the aquatic conservation strategy (ACS) objectives? (NFP B-10, C-31-38) (RMP 6, 13-17)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	



8.	(AL) Was project implementation consistent with the EA and decision?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
9.	<i>Summary Question for 3 thru 8</i> (AL) Were the Riparian Reserves in the project area designed and implemented in accordance with the NFP S&Gs? (NFP C30) (RMP 13)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
10.	(RR) Were activities designed to minimize new road and landing construction, or where necessary, were they designed to minimize impacts to Riparian Reserves? (NFP C32) (RMP 13)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
11.	(RR) Are new structures and improvements (culverts, roads, bridges etc) in Riparian Reserves constructed to minimize the diversion of natural hydrologic flow paths? (NFP C32) (RMP 13-14, 69)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
12.	(RR) Are new structures and improvements (culverts, roads, bridges etc) in Riparian Reserves constructed to reduce the amount of sediment delivery into the stream? (NFP C32) (RMP 14, 69)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	



13.	(RR) Are new structures and improvements (culverts, roads, bridges etc) in Riparian Reserves constructed to protect fish and wildlife populations? (NFP C32) (RMP 14, 69)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
14.	(RR) Are new structures and improvements (culverts, roads, bridges etc) in Riparian Reserves constructed to accommodate the 100-year flood? (NFP C32) (RMP 14, 69)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
15.	(RR) Is the project consistent with a road management or transportation management plan (includes; operations and maintenance, traffic regulations during wet periods, road management objectives, and inspection/maintenance for storm events)? (NFP C32) (RMP 14, 70)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
16.	(RR) Are new recreation facilities within the Riparian Reserves designed so as not to prevent meeting aquatic conservation strategy objectives? (NFP C34) (RMP 14, 46)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
17.	(RR) Are all mining related structures support facilities, and roads located outside the Riparian Reserves? (NFP C34) (RMP 15, 57)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	



18.	(RR) Are mining related activities within the RR meeting the objectives of the aquatic conservation strategy? (NFP C34) (RMP 15)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
19.	(RR) Are all solid and sanitary waste facilities related to mining excluded from Riparian Reserves or located, monitored and reclaimed in accordance with SEIS record of decision S&G and resource management plan management direction? (NFP C34) (RMP 15, 57)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
20.	(AL) Were activities designed to Protect all suitable marbled murrelet habitat within 0.5 mile of activity center? (RMP 36)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
21.	(AL) Were activities designed to Protect or enhance unsuitable marbled murrelet habitat within 0.5 mile of activity center? (RMP 36)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
22.	(LSR) Was REO review completed where required (i.e. salvage, silviculture...) and recommendations implemented? (RMP 19)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
23.	(LSR) Were activities designed to avoid timber harvest in stands over 80? (NFP C12) (RMP 19)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	



24.	(LSR) Were activities designed to limit salvage to areas greater than 10 acres and less than 40 percent canopy closure? (NFP C14) (RMP 19)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
25.	(LSR) Were salvage activities designed to retain standing live trees and snags? (NFP C14) (RMP 19)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
26.	(LSR) Were activities designed to avoid or minimize new road construction, or where necessary, were roads designed to minimize impacts to late-successional stands? (NFP C16) (RMP 20)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
27.	(LSR) Have habitat improvement projects been designed to improve conditions for fish, wildlife, or watersheds and to provide benefits to late-successional habitat? (NFP C17) (RMP 20)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
28.	(LSR) Has the project avoided the introduction of nonnative plants and animals into LSRs (if an introduction is undertaken, has an assessment shown that the action will not retard or prevent the attainment of LSR objectives)? (NFP C19) (RMP 21)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
29.	(MTX) Were "unmapped" LSRs in the vicinity of the project identified in the EA? (NFP C3, C39)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	



30.	(MTX) Were activities designed to protect or enhance the "unmapped" LSR? (NFP C3,C39) (RMP 34, 36)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
31.	(MTX) Was suitable habitat around all occupied marbled murrelet sites protected during project planning? (NFP C3, C10) (RMP 36)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
32.	(MTX) Was recruitment habitat around all occupied marbled murrelet sites protected or enhanced during project planning? (NFP C3, C10) (RMP 36)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
33.	(MTX) Was suitable habitat within 100 acre core areas around all known (Before Jan 1, 1994) spotted owl activity centers protected during project planning? (NFP C3, C10) (RMP 23)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
34.	(MTX) Was non-suitable habitat within 100 acre core areas around all known (Before Jan 1, 1994) spotted owl activity centers protected or enhanced during project planning? (NFP C3, C10) (RMP 23)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	



35.	(MTX) Do management activities within the range of Port-Orford cedar conform to the guidelines contained in the BLM Port-Orford cedar Management Guidelines? (RMP 23)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
36.	(MTX) Are suitable (40% of potential) snags being left in timber harvest units? (NFP C41) (RMP 22, 27)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
37.	(MTX) Is Coarse Woody Debris (CWD) already on the ground retained and protected during and after regeneration harvest? (NFP C40) (RMP 22)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
38.	(MTX) Are 120 linear feet of decay class 1 and 2 logs per acre, at least 16" in diameter and 16' in length retained and protected during and after regeneration harvest? (NFP C40) (RMP 22, 53)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
39.	(MTX) Are 6-8 (12-18 in connectivity) green conifer trees per acre retained in regeneration harvest units? (NFP C41-42) (RMP 23, 28, 54)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
40.	(MTX) Was harvest consistent with retention of the 15% late successional stands analysis identified in the 5th field watershed? (NFP C44) (RMP 23, 28, 53)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	



41.	(AL) If dust abatement measures were required during construction and log/rock hauling, was it implemented ? (RMP 24)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
42.	(AL) Concerning water and soil "Best Management Practices" (BMPs), were all potentially impacted beneficial uses identified in the EA? (NFP B32) (RMP 25, App D BMPs)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
43.	(AL) Were the appropriate BMPs designed to avoid or mitigate potential impacts to beneficial uses? (NFP B32) (RMP 25, App D)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
44.	(AL) Were the designed BMPs implemented? (NFP B32) (RMP 25, App D)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
45.	(LSR, RR) Are suitable snags being left in timber harvest units? What standard was used for each project and why? (NFP C40-41, C14-15) (RMP 19)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
46.	(LSR, RR) Is CWD already on the ground retained and protected during density management harvest? What standard was used for each project and why? (NFP C40-41, C14-15) (RMP 13, 19)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	



47.	(LSR, RR) Is sufficient CWD retained following harvest activities? (NFP C40-41, C14-15) (RMP13, 19)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
48.	(AL) Are special habitats (i.e. talus, cliffs, caves) being identified and protected? (RMP 28)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
49.	(AL) Has protection been provided for abandoned caves, abandoned mines, abandoned wooden bridges and abandoned buildings that are used as roost sites for bats? (SM38)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
50.	(AL) Have surveys for bats been conducted according to a standardized regional protocol? (SM38)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
51.	(AL) Have site management measures been developed for sites containing bats? (SM38)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
52.	(AL) If Townsend's big-eared bats were found, have the appropriate state wildlife agencies been notified? (SM38)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
53.	(AL) Has timber harvest been prohibited within 250 feet of abandoned caves, abandoned mines, abandoned wooden bridges and abandoned buildings containing bats? (SM38)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	



54.	(RR) Were potential adverse impacts to fish habitat and fish stocks identified in the EA? (RMP 30)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
55.	(AL) Were design features and mitigating measures for fish species identified in EA and contract? (RMP 30)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
56.	(AL) Were design features and mitigating measures for fish species implemented? (RMP 30)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
57.	(AL) Have predisturbance surveys been conducted to protocol for category A and C species or category B species requiring equivalent-effort surveys? (SM7,8, 9,10,11, SMROD5)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
58.	(AL) For category A, B, C, D and E species have known sites or high priority sites been managed according to the management recommendations? (if no management recommendations, then appendix J2 and professional judgement) Identify how this was accomplished. (SM7)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
59.	(AL) Have known site records (available to date) for the project area been verified and entered into ISMS? (SM15)	Meets S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Meet S&G <input type="checkbox"/> Not Capable of Meeting S&G <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	



60.	(AL) If any species were found, what species were they and what management actions were implemented? (NFP C5)	Narrative Response required	
61.	(AL) Are special status species being considered in deciding whether or not to go forward with forest management and other actions?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
62.	(AL) During forest management and other actions that may impact special status species, are steps taken to adequately mitigate disturbances? (RMP 32)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
63.	(AL) Was analysis conducted and appropriate consultation with USFWS and NMFS completed on special status species to ensure consistency under existing laws? (NFP 53-54, A2-3, C1) (RMP 32)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
64.	(AL) Are BLM actions and BLM-authorized actions/uses adjacent to or within special areas consistent with resource management plan objectives and management direction for special areas? If not, what is being done to correct the situation? (RMP L 15)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	



65.	(AL) Are actions needed to maintain or restore the important values of the special areas being implemented? (RMP 38)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
66.	(AL) Are cultural resources being addressed in deciding whether or not to go forward with forest management and other actions? (RMP 40)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
67.	(AL) During forest management and other actions that may disturb cultural resources, are steps taken to adequately manage and protect disturbances? (RMP 40)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
68.	(AL) In Visual Resource Management Class II and III areas, were visual resource design features and mitigating measures identified in the EA and contract (RMP 41)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
69.	(AL) For projects or research within designated segments (eligible or suitable) of a Wild and Scenic River, were potential impacts to outstandingly remarkable values identified? (RMP 42)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	



70.	(AL) For actions within the identified Rural Interface Areas, Are design features and mitigation measures developed and implemented to minimize the possibility of conflicts between private and federal land management? (RMP 44)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
71.	(AL) Was creation of a "fire hazard" considered during project planning? (RMP 74)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
72.	(AL) Did the IDT plan for fire hazard reduction? (RMP 75)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	



## **Coos Bay District**

### **2003 APS Related RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions**

#### Abbreviation legend:

NFP = Northwest Forest Plan	RMP=Resource Management Plan
RR = Riparian Reserve	LSR= Late Successional Reserve
KW = Key Watershed	AL = All land use allocations
MTX = matrix (including connectivity)	SA = Special Area (ACEC, RNA, EEA)
WSR = Wild & Scenic River	SM = Survey and Manage SEIS
REQ = Requirement reference from RMP appendix L	

NOTE: Each question begins with a parenthesis which identifies the areas where the question applies and ends with NFP page references, RMP page references and RMP requirement number that applies to question.

Questions 1-72 were project related questions and are found in the question document.

**73. (RR) What types of projects are being implemented within riparian reserves to achieve the Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives? (NFP C32) (RMP 7, 13)**

In FY 2003 the following types (and numbers) of restoration projects were undertaken or completed in riparian reserves using Jobs-in-the Woods funds:

- Instream Habitat / Large Wood Placement - 8
- Culvert Replacement Projects - 6
- Road Related Restoration - 2
- Riparian / Wetland Restoration - 1
- Wildlife Tree / Snag Creation - 1
- Noxious Weed Control - 3
- Snowy Plover Habitat restoration - 2

In FY 2003 the following types (and numbers) of restoration projects were undertaken in riparian reserves using Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 - Title II funds:

- Instream Habitat / Large Wood Placement - 3
- Culvert Replacement Projects - 17
- Road Related Restoration - 1
- Noxious Weed Control - 1
- Trail Maintenance - 2

Several other projects beneficial to riparian reserves were funded, but were not completed in FY 2003 due to issues with contracting timing.



**74. (RR) Do watershed analyses identify mitigation measures where existing recreation facilities are not meeting Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives? Have they been implemented? (NFP C34) (RMP 14)**

The Coos Bay District does not manage any developed recreation sites on BLM lands covered by watershed analysis document completed in FY 2003. The 2001 North Fork Coquille Watershed Analysis included an assessment of the existing BLM recreation sites with respect to attaining ACS objectives. The BLM recreation site facilities do not prevent attainment of ACS objectives. However, the assessment did identify opportunities to do stream side stand restoration inside the recreation site boundaries, which have yet to be implemented.

**75. (LSR) Have Late-Successional Reserves assessments been prepared prior to habitat manipulation activities? (NFP A7, C11, C26) (RMP 18)**

The *Oregon Coast Province - Southern Portion LSR* Assessments completed in 1997 and the *South Coast - Northern Klamath LSR* Assessment completed in 1998 address habitat manipulation activities. Prior to completion of these LSR Assessment documents, individual project assessments were prepared and submitted to REO for review.

**76. (LSR) What is the status of development and implementation of plans to eliminate or control nonnative species which adversely impact late-successional objectives? (NFP C19) (RMP 21)**

Control of nonnative species occurring within LSRs is discussed in both the *Oregon Coast Province - Southern Portion* and the *South Coast - Northern Klamath LSR* Assessments. Specific plans have not been developed or implemented at this time.

**77. (AL, LSR) What land acquisitions occurred, or are underway, to improve the area, distribution, and quality of Late-Successional Reserves? (NFP C17) (RMP 20)**

No land acquisitions specifically for improvement of LSRs occurred, or are underway at this time.

**78. (AL) Are late-successional retention stands being identified in fifth-field watersheds in which federal forest lands have 15 percent or less late-successional forest? (RMP 23)**

As watershed analysis documents were prepared, an initial screening of 5<sup>th</sup> field watersheds was completed with the Siuslaw and Siskiyou National Forests. Results of this initial analysis were reported in the watershed analysis documents. The initial analysis applied to all actions with decisions prior to October 1, 1999. All FY 95-2003 sales sold under the RMP ROD have complied with the 15 percent rule per the initial analysis.

A joint BLM/FS Instruction Memorandum was issued on September 14, 1998. This provided the final guidance for implementing the 15 percent standards and guidelines throughout the area covered by the NFP. Implementation of this guidance is required for all actions with decisions



beginning October 1, 1999. The final 15 percent analysis has been included in the Coos Bay third year RMP evaluation.

**79. (AL) What is the age and type of the harvested stands? (RMP 53, 54)**

This information is shown in Appendix B of the APS.

**80. (AL) What efforts were made to minimize the amounts of particulate emissions from prescribed burns? (RMP 24)**

All prescribed fire activities were conducted in accordance with the Oregon Smoke Management Plan and Visibility Protection Plan. Prescribed fire activities were down significantly in FY 2003. Mechanical and alternative treatment methods were used to decrease emissions and increase the length of treatment windows. Proposed management activities are analyzed during the IDT review process and alternative fuels management methods are utilized where appropriate. Fuel consumption varies due to factors such as time of year, aspect, fuel type, ignition method, fuel continuity and treatment method. No intrusions occurred into designated areas as a result of prescribed burning activities on the District. Prescribed burning prescriptions target spring like burning conditions when large fuel, duff and litter consumption, and smoldering is reduced by wetter conditions and rapid mop up. Prescribe burning activities are implemented to improve seedling plantability, and survival as well as hazardous fuels reduction both in natural and activity fuels.

**81. (AL) What in-stream flow needs have been identified for the maintenance of channel conditions, aquatic habitat and riparian resources (Watershed Analysis)? (RMP25)**

No in-stream flow needs were identified in FY 2003.

**82. (AL, KW) How many, and what types of watershed restoration projects are being developed and implemented in Key Watersheds? In other watersheds? (NFP C7) (RMP 8)**

Key watersheds: None in FY 2003

Other watersheds: In the Umpqua Resource Area, Eleven fish passage culverts were replaced, two culverts were modified to provide adult and juvenile fish passage and one culvert was removed to allow the site to fix grade through a winter before being replaced in FY 2004. This work improved passage to approximately 13.0 miles of upstream habitat. Major culvert replacements occurred on Crane Creek, Mosetown Creek, Grunt Creeks and Devil's Club Creek which are all in the Smith River watershed. One fish passage culvert associated with a non-discretionary road right-of-way was replaced according to BLM specifications which improved fish access to one mile of upstream habitat. Survey work was also completed on three culverts by the engineering and fisheries staff for future replacement. Under the authority of the Wyden Amendment, the UFO also cooperated with two watershed councils for the replacements of two tide gates, one in the lower Smith River and one in the lower Coos River.



In the Myrtlewood Resource Area, a total of six culverts were replaced to improve anadromous and resident fish passage. Two of the replaced culverts were in the right fork of Yankee Run Creek. This work improved passage to roughly three miles of habitat upstream. The left fork of Yankee Run Creek, Axe Creek, North Fork Elk Creek, and Hantz Creek were also replaced. A design for the culvert for South Fork of Elk Creek was completed. Fisheries staff from the MFO assisted with the survey and design work on South Fork Elk Creek, to be replaced in FY 2004. Several additional culverts were determined to have passage problems; one culvert is funded for FY04, and one other is proposed for replacement is FY 2005. The remaining culverts have had field assessments, such as Lausch Creek, and will be proposed for replacement in subsequent years.

**83. (RR, AL) What fuel treatment and fire suppression strategies have been developed to meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives? (NFP C35) (RMP15)**

Fuel treatment strategies are developed as a part of the interdisciplinary team (IDT) process. No chemical retardant, foam or other additives are to be used on or near surface waters. In accordance with BLM Prescribed Fire Manual 9214, Coos Bay District RMP, the District Fire Management Plan, and the ODF/BLM Protection Agreement, immediate and appropriate suppression action is to be applied on all wildfires. In 2003 machines (excavators) and pile burning were used to treat IDT identified hardwood conversion areas within riparian reserves.

**84. (AL) Has a road or transportation management plan been developed and does it meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives? (NFPC33) (RMP 14, 70)**

The District is continuing to operate under the 1996 Western Oregon Transportation Management Plan and the District Implementation Plan developed in late 1998. Both plans have, as one of their two main goals, maintenance programs and operation plans designed to meet ACS objectives.

The district has re-issued its Maintenance Operation Plan outlining the prescribed maintenance levels for the transportation network. It is anticipated that these levels will not meet ACS objectives due to budgetary and manpower reductions.

**85. (AL) What is the status of the reconstruction of roads and associated drainage features identified in watershed analysis as posing a substantial risk? (NFP C7) (RMP 69)**

Through the IDT process culverts identified as barriers to fish passage continue to be replaced as funding becomes available. Roads determined to be potential sources of sediment delivery, disruptive to a natural hydrologic process or barriers to natural delivery of LWD are either decommissioned or upgraded to correct the condition.



**86. (KW) What is the status of closure or elimination of roads to further Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives and to reduce the overall road mileage within Key Watersheds? (NFP C7) (RMP 7, 70)**

Continuing in FY 2003 emphasis remains on more critical areas in non-key watersheds. Overall road mileage reduction remains an issue in all watersheds with the current emphasis targeting those roads in flood-plain areas where the greatest benefit to the resources can be realized. Closures will continue to take place based on available funding and will continue to be prioritized by staff input.

**87. (KW) If funding is insufficient to implement road mileage reductions, are construction and authorizations through discretionary permits, denied to prevent a net increase in road mileage in Key Watersheds? (NFP C7) (RMP 62-63)**

It is not policy to deny access to lands of private parties. BLM will review any request and fulfill its obligations under the appropriate laws and regulations governing issuance of such permits.

**88. (AL) What watershed-based Coordinated Resource Management Plans and other cooperative agreements have been developed with other agencies to meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives? (RMP 17, 25)**

During FY 2003 Resource Area fish biologists were actively involved with the Coos and Coquille Watershed Associations, the Umpqua, Lower Rogue Council, and South Coast Coordinating Watershed Councils. Fish biologists provided technical support in the form of project recommendations, design and evaluation, basin action planning, monitoring plan development and implementation, database management, and special resources (such as aerial photography). MOUs have been developed between the District and each of the Associations/Councils.

**89. (AL) Are presence of at-risk fish species and stocks, habitat conditions, and restoration needs being identified during watershed analysis? (RMP 30)**

On the Coos Bay District there are two listed ESUs of anadromous salmonids. The Oregon Coast coho and Southern Oregon/Northern California coho are listed as threatened. Listed fish along with candidate species are addressed in the watershed analysis process along with a description of the habitat conditions. Watershed restoration opportunities are identified to benefit the habitat needs of these fish.

**90. (AL) Do any known sites for category A, B, and E Survey and Manage species exist on the District? (Yes, No) (SM 7,8,9,12,13)**

Yes, known sites exist, information for these sites has been entered in the ISMS database.



**a) What efforts have been made to determine if there are known sites for these species?**

Pre-disturbance surveys, purposive surveys are being conducted for proposed projects.

**b) Are you managing these sites according to the Management Recommendations (MR's) for these species? (Yes, No)**

Yes, the sites are being managed in accord with the management recommendations.

**c) If MRs were not available, how did you determine appropriate site management?**

In 2002, a Coos Bay interdisciplinary team prepared a document titled "Applications of Known Site Management Recommendations for Survey and Manage Nonvascular Plant Species on the Coos Bay District." This document outlines recommendations for commercial thinning and density management projects in conifer stands to manage all known sites for Survey & Manage (S&M) Category A, B, and E species and high-priority sites for Category C and D species. The soil environment, including the litter layer and woody debris beneath the host trees should be protected from disturbance, soil compaction, and soil mixing. The recommendations seek to protect occupied substrates from disturbance, maintain shade for the occupied substrate, avoid desiccation, and avoid raising the temperatures on the substrate surface to lethal levels. It also retains the most likely host tree(s) based on species and proximity, especially for S&M mycorrhizal fungal fruiting bodies. Briefly summarized, the protocol recommends a non-disturbance buffer around the occupied substrate, an added area where shade is provided, and an additional area should there be other unique site factors, such as species rarity, life history, and habitat requirements, or other conditions, such as the availability of live trees on which to post the site boundary. The protocol had been adopted for use in both the Myrtlewood and Umpqua Field Offices and has worked well.

**d) If predisturbance surveys were required, were they completed to protocol? (If not, explain.)**

Yes, where protocol has been established.

**e) Are Strategic Surveys being conducted for S&M species to acquire additional information?**

Yes, Strategic Surveys for several mollusks species were completed this spring.

**91. (AL) What are we doing to implement approved recovery plans on a timely basis? (RMP 32)**

The Section 7 consultation streamlining process developed in FY 96 was used again this year. Coos Bay biologists participate on Level 1 Teams with both US Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA Fisheries Service. The District Manager represents the District on the Level 2 Team. Approved protocol for marbled murrelets, disturbance buffers for bald eagles, and current guidelines for northern spotted owls were used in preparation of all biological assessments for



the consultation process with the USFWS. Yearly monitoring ensures that Terms and Conditions are followed in all project activities. In addition, we are participating on the team implementing the Western Snowy Plover Draft Recovery Plan in Recovery Unit 1. Coos Bay BLM continues to place a high priority on implementing as many of the measures recommended for recovery of Western snowy plovers as possible. Challenge Cost Share funds were successfully obtained for much of this work and also for monitoring of a Western lily population found on district. As recommended in the bald eagle recovery plan, planning is underway to enhance the development of bald eagle nest and roost trees.

**92. (AL) What land acquisitions occurred or are under way, to facilitate the management and recovery of special status species? (RMP 33)**

The District is continuing to work on acquisition of parcels adjacent to New River. Several of the potential acquisitions would enhance habitat for the recently delisted Aleutian Canada goose and Western snowy plover populations.

**93. (AL) What site specific plans for the recovery of special status species were or are being developed?**

Coos Bay BLM implemented the second year of a predator control action plan for Western snowy plovers in 2003. In addition, two draft step-down strategies to support the range-wide Recovery Plan were completed for outreach and species recovery.

Site specific plans to enhance the development of bald eagle nest and roost trees are being developed.

A draft conservation plan for the pink sand-verbena was completed during 2003.

**94. (SA) What environmental education and research initiatives and programs are occurring in the research natural areas and environmental education areas? (RMP 38)**

A study by Christine L. May and Robert E. Gresswell, titled, "Large wood recruitment and redistribution in headwater streams in the southern Oregon Coast Range, U.S.A." was published in the Canadian Journal of Forest Research 33:1352-1362 in 2003. This study was conducted in the Cherry Creek RNA. It was presented at the Symposium Small Stream Channels and Riparian Zones in 2002 and published during 2003 on the NRC Research Press Web site at <http://cjfr.nrc.ca>.

During 2003, two research permits were issued for study of special status plants in Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs). A master's level graduate student from Oregon State University, Oregon is studying the establishment of an experimental population of Wolf's evening primrose, a Bureau sensitive species, at New River ACEC. A doctoral level graduate student from Queen's University, Canada is studying the evolution of species' geographic range limits of pink sand-verbena and beach suncup along the North American coastline, including sites at New River and North Spit ACEC.



**95. (AL) What mechanisms have been developed to describe past landscapes and the role of humans in shaping those landscapes? (RMP 40)**

Watershed analysis is the primary mechanism used to describe past landscapes and the role of humans in shaping those landscapes, utilizing old photos, maps, literature, verbal discussion with many people, county records, agency records and tribal input.

**96. (AL) What efforts are being made to work with American Indian groups to accomplish cultural resource objectives and achieve goals outlined in existing memoranda of understanding and develop additional memoranda as needs arise? (RMP 40)**

The District continued to maintain the District Native American Coordinator position, as well as staff and management-level contacts with federally-recognized tribes whose current interests extend to Coos Bay BLM lands.

- The District continued another year of a cost-sharing partnership with the Coquille Indian Tribe to continue field and analytic investigations into an archeological site on BLM lands.
- The District responded to a request from the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians for permission to gather weaving material from BLM lands. The material gathered was used in teaching traditional technology to young people during their summer camp.

**97. (AL) What public education and interpretive programs were developed to promote the appreciation of cultural resources? (RMP 40)**

A video was prepared documenting steps in the major repair project conducted at the Cape Blanco lighthouse. This video will be presented publicly during FY 2004 to foster an appreciation for this national treasure.

**98. (AL) What strategies and programs have been developed, through coordination with state and local governments, to support local economies and enhance local communities? (NFP App D) (RMP 45)**

The District has made good use of new procurement authorities to support local businesses. These include:

- Using “Best Value Procurement” processes aware contracts and purchases to local business when it can be demonstrated the local capabilities result in a better product or outcome.
- Awarding contracts between \$2500 and \$25,000 to “small businesses.”
- Using check-writing capabilities to provide prompt payment to business with a minimum of paperwork.
- During FY 2003, the Coos Bay District prepared projects for potential funding under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-determination Act of 2001. Through the local Resource Advisory Committee, almost \$1 million in funding was made available for funding of restoration contracts in FY 2003.



**99. (AL) Are resource management plan implementation strategies being identified that support local economies? (NFP App D) (RMP 45)**

Yes, see response to question 98.

As court decisions allow, the District is taking every step to assure a continuous offering of timber sale contracts for public bidding. In addition, the District small-sales program takes extra steps to assure that local business have the opportunity to acquire forest products in compliance with forest plan and consultation requirements.

**100. (AL) What is the status of planning and developing amenities that enhance local communities, such as recreation and wildlife viewing facilities? (NFP App D) (RMP 45)**

Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area is a highly popular Watchable Wildlife site (attracting approximately 500,000 visitors annually) situated just outside of Reedsport, Or. Much progress was made this year in addressing some serious management concerns with the Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area. The combination of replacing two tidegates in 2002, coupled with the cleaning of approximately 2.3 miles of drainage ditches in 2003 has helped alleviate the pasture flooding. In addition, approximately 250 acres were mowed twice during 2003 to maintain elk forage. These actions will assure that the Dean Creek Elk Viewing area remains as a major tourist attraction in western Douglas County.

A noteworthy amenity is our development of a multimedia approach to providing information and service for the Loon Lake Recreation Area. On-line information is available and internet accessibility of the recreation facilities at Loon Lake include; on-line reservations, webcam, photos, and a weather station. The implementation of the National Recreation Reservation Service is intended to provide a seamless service and is a component of the Presidents e-government initiative.

**101. (AL) By land-use allocation, how do timber sale volumes, harvested acres, and the age and type of regeneration harvest stands compare to the projections in the SEIS record of decision Standards and Guidelines and resource management plan management objectives? (RMP 53, A-9)**

This information is displayed in Appendix B of this APS.

**102. (MTX) Were the silvicultural (e.g., planting with genetically-selected stock, fertilization, release, and thinning) and forest health practices anticipated in the calculation of the expected sale quantity, implemented? (RMP A-2)**

This information has been displayed in Table 29 in this APS.



**103. (AL) Have specific guidelines, consistent with the NFP and RMP, for the management of individual special forest products been developed and implemented? (RMP 55)**

The District continues to use the guidelines contained in the *Oregon/Washington Special Forest Products Procedure Handbook*.

**104. (AL) Are noxious weed control methods compatible with LSR and Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives? (RMP 72)**

Noxious weed control methods have been discussed in both the *Oregon Coast Province - Southern Portion* and the *South Coast - Northern Klamath LSR* Assessments, as well as in Watershed Analyses. Further, each environmental document is reviewed for noxious weed impact and is supplemented by BMP (Best Management Practices) identified in *Partners Against Weeds - A National Action Plan for the BLM* (1/96).

**105. (RR) What cooperative efforts have been made with other agencies to identify and eliminate impacts which threaten continued existence and distribution of native fish stocks on federal land? (RMP 30)**

The BLM continues to work within the 1997 MOU with ODFW, regarding cooperative and comprehensive aquatic habitat inventory, to identify physical conditions threatening the continued existence and distribution of native fish stocks on federally-managed lands. Myrtlewood fisheries biologists prepared formal consultation packages for actions in the OR Coast coho ESU (for Threatened coho salmon) and the Southern OR/Northern CA coho ESU (for Threatened coho salmon). Umpqua fisheries biologists prepared formal consultation packages for actions in the OR Coast coho ESU (for Threatened coho salmon). Consultation workloads have increased this year due to ongoing litigation which requires additional documentation in the preparation of Biological Assessments.

**106. (SA) Have management plans been prepared, revised and implemented for areas of critical environmental concern? (RMP 38)**

The New River ACEC management plan was completed in FY 1995, with implementation of the plan beginning in FY 1995. The learning center at New River ACEC was dedicated to Ellen Warring, a person who was instrumental in the creation of the site and an advocate for the environment. A visitor use monitoring plan was implemented at New River, with trail counters installed at four trailheads and the entrance to Storm Ranch area. This information is being used to assess potential recreational impacts through a Limits of Acceptable Change process. Visitor Use will be compared with annual bird monitoring in the area.

The North Fork Hunter Creek and Hunter Creek Bog ACEC Management Plan was completed in FY 1996 with implementation beginning in FY 1997. The North Spit ACEC plan will be included in the North Spit Plan Update to be completed in FY 2004. Management plans exist for the other ACECs in the Umpqua Resource Area but are not detailed. Management of these ACECs coincides with the guidelines for LSR or Riparian Reserve land use allocations. As



directed by the State Office, the ACEC team visited several ACECs in FY 2003 to assess their current condition and will continue to visit the other sites in FY 2004.

No new management plans have been prepared or revised during 2003. Plans for New River and North Spit ACECs are in preparation by multidisciplinary teams and will likely be completed during 2004. Existing management plans continue to be implemented where actions are needed and funding is available.

**107. (AL) What is the status of the development and implementation of recreation plans for proposed sites, trails, SRMAs, etc.? (RMP 49)**

**Status of Recreation Area Management Plans:**

**Umpqua Field Office**

- Loon Lake SRMA Management Plan - completed 2002.
- Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area SRMA- completed 1993, amended 1998.
- Loon Lake SRMA Operations Plan - completed 1997.
- Coos Bay Shorelands SRMA - completed 1995, to be updated in 2003.
- Park Creek Campground Site Plan - completed 1998.
- Smith River Falls & Vincent Creek Campgrounds Site Plans - completed 1999.
- Vincent Creek House historical assessment completed 2001.
- Big Tree recreation site - recreation plan completed 1999.
- Blue Ridge Multi-use trail - completed 1998.
- Wassen Creek ACEC – EA for Trail completed – ROD signed 2002.
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**Myrtlewood Field Office**

- New River ACEC/SRMA Management Plan - completed 1995.
- New River ACEC Trail, Interpretive & Implementation Plans - completed 1999.
- New River Visitor Use Monitoring Plan Initiated in 2001, Limits of Acceptable Change Plan - draft 2002
- Sixes River SRMA - Recreation Area Management Plan - completed 2000.
- Cape Blanco Lighthouse National Historic Site - Interim Management Plan - completed 1996.
- Hunter Creek Bog ACEC Management Plan - completed 1996.
- Hunter Creek Bog ACEC Trail Plan - completed 1999.
- Euphoria Ridge Trail planning - completed 1999.
- Doerner Fir Trail plan & trail head construction - completed 1999.
- Bear Creek & Palmer Butte recreation site assessments - pending

All plans listed above as completed are being implemented.



**108. (LSR) Was additional analysis and planning included in the LSR Assessment “fire management plan” to allow some natural fires to burn under specified conditions? (RMP 75)**

Both the Oregon Coast Province - Southern Portion and the South Coast - Northern Klamath LSR Assessments considered and rejected allowing some natural fires to burn under specified conditions, based primarily on the fact that the ecosystems are not fire-dependent, and that permitting natural fires to burn would not be consistent with neighboring landowners management objectives.

**109. (LSR) Did the LSR Assessment “fire management plan” emphasize maintaining late-successional habitat? (RMP 74)**

The fire management plan contained in both the Oregon Coast Province - Southern Portion and the South Coast - Northern Klamath LSR Assessments call for full and aggressive suppression of all wildfires as well as the use of prescribed fire to reduce activity and natural fuels buildup and to achieve a desired species mix.

**110. (AL) Are Escaped Fire Situation Analyses being prepared for fires that escape initial attack? (RMP 75)**

Yes, when fires escape initial attack. In FY 2003 the Coos Bay District had 9 wildfires (6 human 3 natural), none of which escaped initial attack.

**111. (AL) What wildlife habitat restoration projects were designed and implemented during the past year? (RMP 27)**

These items have been discussed in the Wildlife Habitat section of the APS.

**112. (AL) What wildlife interpretive facilities have been designed and implemented during the past year? (RMP 27, 45)**

Snowy plover regulatory and interpretive panels continue to be maintained at the New River ACEC and Coos Bay North Spit breeding sites.

**113. (LSR) What is the status of the preparation and implementation of fire management plans for Late-Successional Reserves? (NFP C18) (RMP 21)**

A fire management plan for the South Coast - Northern Klamath LSR Assessment covering the remaining LSRs located on the Coos Bay District was prepared and reviewed by REO in FY 1998 and incorporated into the Districts Fire Management Plan.



















**UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

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